Daily Report

East Europe

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NOTICE TO READERS: On 6 May 1991, the DAILY REPORT will begin phasing in new radio and television sourcelines that reflect how a station identifies itself. This change eliminates the "Domestic Service" and "Television Service" designations in favor of the station identification as broadcast. The presence of a new sourceline reflects this change in policy, rather than the establishment of a new station or network.

NOTICE TO READERS: • indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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Budapest Hosts Pentagonale Energy Meeting

LD0705193791 Budapest MTI in English 1500 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Budapest, May 7 (MTI)—During its Budapest session on May 6-7, Pentagonale's energy working party reviewed possibilities for co-operation in oil and gas supply, coal-mining and transport, as well as in the area of nuclear safety. The minutes of the conference were signed by experts from Austria, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Yugoslavia and Hungary.

The meeting was attended by representatives from the World Bank, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the commission of the European Communities. Poland was now for the first time represented by an observer.

By linking itself to the planned gas pipeline covering Algeria, Tunisia, Sicily, Italy, Austria and Czechoslovakia, Hungary could receive 3,000 million cubic metres of gas annually, it was stated at the conference.

An alternative solution for the region's countries would be the import of Iranian gas.

Balkan Meeting Opens in Bucharest 7 May

AU0705132491 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1140 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/5/1991—The meeting of the Commission for Foreign Policy of Balkan States was open at Romania's Senate headquarters, Tuesday, 7 May, the works of which will be held over 7-8 May in Bucharest.

The opening address was delivered by Corneliu Manescu, chairman of the Commission for Foreign Policy of Romania's Parliament.

Before the meeting, the delegations of the participating countries—Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Yugoslavia, Turkey—were received by Vasile Mois, vice-president of the Senate, and Dan Martian, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies.

Delegates Begin Work

AU0705193391 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1349 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 7/5/1991—Participants in the Balkan meeting of parliamentary foreign affairs commissions hosted by Bucharest were received today by Romania's lower house speaker, Dan Martian, Senate Vice President Vasile Mois (in the absence of Senate President Alexandru Barladeanu for health reasons) Senator Corneliu Manescu, chairman of the Parliament's Foreign Affairs Commission, other senators and deputies.

Speaker Dan Martian said the Romanian Parliament was pleased to welcome the Balkan delegates to Bucharest at a first gathering of its kind after the changes in this part of Europe. Hopefully the event will be an opportunity for an exchange of opinions on the potential for growing and wide-ranging cooperation in the Balkans, he said briefly outlining the composition and work of Romania's Parliament.

The foreign affairs commissions of Balkan countries' parliaments continue their work at the headquarters of the Romanian Senate in Bucharest.

The event is a materialization of the Romanian Parliament's foreign affairs commission initiating and is part of the Balkan meetings organized in the last three years at various levels and in various domains for growing inter-Balkan cooperation and understanding. This meeting aims at building up confidence, security and cooperation in the Balkans and in Europe.

The meeting is attended by parliamentary delegations of all six Balkan countries: Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Yugoslavia and Romania.

The meeting was opened by Mr. Corneliu Manescu, senator, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of Romania's Parliament. Its agenda includes three main topics: Parliament's contribution to formulating and implementing the Balkan countries' foreign policies, ways of strengthening the parliament's role in developing cooperation and building up confidence among the Balkan states as an integral part of the CSCE process, and the opportuneness of conferring a parliamentary dimension on the process of cooperation and good understanding in the Balkans.

The debates started by approaching the first item with the Albanian chief delegate's address.

Manescu, Others Address Meeting

AU0705202491 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1938 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 7/5/1991—Your presence here is itself a proof of our convergent concerns to build in the Balkans one of the firm strongholds of the future Europe—the new Europe whose birth certificate was signed in Paris in November 1990, Senator Corneliu Manescu stated in his inaugural speech to the Balkan parliamentary meeting.

We declare for a free and open dialogue, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Romanian Parliament said inter alia, in keeping with the effort to identify the difficulties and the yet unclear spots of our collaboration, in keeping with the common search for efficient and realistic solutions to the complex questions of our region, a region which represents, keeping the necessary proportions, a mirror of the entire Europe. Because here one meets almost all viable structures built on the continent in the last forty-five years as well as the

questions put by the dissolution of duplicitary solidarities. This is why our success in implementing the principles and goals of the conference on security and cooperation in Europe will be a concrete test that the relations of good neighbourhood, the bilateral and multilateral collaboration in various institutional frameworks are the humus wherefrom the free and united Europe we all wish could grow.

Of course, the implementation of this target does not depend only on us, on the Balkan countries, but greatly on us, too. In this context, I think it is worth emphasising that we should strive to make all sub-regional groups, which have appeared in Central and Eastern Europe since late 1989, the parts of a genuine network of communication vessels. Only in this way the fragmentation tendency which is worrying our Western European friends could be prevented.

Today, when the old continent has been opened new horizons of evolution, when the cold war ceased to paralyse gestures and thoughts, we have the chance as well as the duty to completely reveal the European vocation of all our peoples. We have the opportunity to forget forever the nickname of "powder keg of Europe" which was almost automatically attached to this part of Europe.

Let it be that these days' debates which I wish good luck represent a new, convincing step towards this direction, a step proving that here, in the Balkans, the spirit of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe is quite at home, that the Europe of future started in our countries, the Romanian senator concluded.

Taking the floor on item one of the agenda of the Balkan meeting of parliamentary foreign affairs commissions in Bucharest, the chief delegates referred to the international political situation, the role and contribution of parliaments to building up confidence and growing cooperation, to security and peace in the region and around the world.

The head of the Albanian delegation, Xhelil Gjoni, said the time had come for inter-parliamentary contacts to be institutionalised and parliamentary groups to be set up for Balkan cooperation and understanding to spur the process. Parliamentary contacts are seen by the Albanian delegation as likely to help a realistic and responsible approach to the minorities question which can become a factor of cohesion, rapprochement and friendship.

The Bulgarian chief delegate, Filip Ishpekov, stressed the great significance of security, stability and good neighbourliness in the Balkans where persisting prejudices, a great cultural, religious and linguistic diversity, and instances of nationalism and chauvinism may add to the threats to peace, stability and democracy in the area. That is why, he said, parliamentary contacts are, in our opinion, highly significant for the future course of the democratic process and for the promotion of multilateral cooperation in this area as part of the all-European processes.

In his address, the head of the Greek parliamentary delegation, Panayiotis Skandalakis [spelling as received], representing the New Democracy Party, said that a climate of instability and insecurity may lead to "axes of occasional alliances sacred or unsacred. This policy offers only temporary benefits since axes give birth to anti-axes and increase instability in the region." An intra-Balkan regional approach may be the key to more effective security he said, emphasising the willingness of the Greek parliamentarians to take action for the Balkans to find their place in this new and dynamic Europe.

The head of the Yugoslav delegation, Zoran Kijac, saying that Balkan cooperation had entered a new and far more difficult stage, which required that aims be more specifically stated, was of the opinion that inter-parliamentary cooperation was just another way of significantly contributing to building up confidence and understanding in the Balkans.

The Turkish chief delegate, Hasan Adnan Tutkun [spelling as received], said it was his belief that inter-parliamentary relations had a big role to play in international affairs, and could significantly contribute to the discussion of major regional and global problems as well as facilitate better understanding not only among law-making bodies but also among nations. All the more significant is this contribution at this time of historic change in Europe and the world when joint efforts are being made to promote and help pluralism and democracy take root.

Discussions in the first meeting of the Foreign Affairs Commissions of the Balkan Parliaments were resumed, Tuesday afternoon, on the second item of the agenda: ways of strengthening the role of parliaments for a growing inter-Balkan cooperation and confidence-building as part of the CSCE process.

The Greek delegation launched the idea of institutionalizing this gathering to testify to the efficiency and promptness of such actions every other year and suggested that Athens host the next meeting. The proposal was generally upheld.

Poll Shows BSP Should Return Property

AU0705113391 Sofia BTA in English 1056 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Sofia, May 7 (BTA)—Two-thirds of the Sofianites are categorical that the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] (ex-BCP) [Bulgarian Communist Party] and its satellite organizations should return the subsidies they received to the national budget, the "168 CHASA" weekly asserts citing a telephone sociological survey. 66 percent of the respondents approve Finance Minister Ivan Kostov's recent claim that the illegally acquired funds by the BCP, the Bulgarian Agrarian National Union, the Komsomol and the Fatherland Front be returned to the state. The total sum is to the tune of 4 billion leva.

The weekly writes that those who approve of the claim are not guided by anti-communist feelings but by the understanding that the BCP and the other organizations were not parties and organizations in the real sense of this word and that their money is now serving a handful of people. 17 percent of the respondents disagree with the finance minister.

The claim is not of a political but of a financial nature, Mr. Kostov told "168 CHASA." He expresses the hope that the BSP, as a left-wing party in the process of innovation, according to its leaders, will "clear this problem" and not let it go to court. For the time being, however, the statements made by BSP leaders have revealed no such desire.

Prime Minister Dimitur Popov told the weekly that the finance minister's claim has not been discussed by his cabinet yet. Will the prime minister undertake some action? His answer shows that he will, but only after he acquaints himself in detail with the document and makes certain that it is justified.

Assembly Extends 1991 Budget Deadline

AU0805081691 Sofia BTA in English 2115 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Sofia, May 7 (BTA)—This evening the Bulgarian Parliament extended the deadline by which the government has to introduce an updated version of the 1991 budget until May 30. A budget structure, composition and spending bill has to be submitted within the same period.

The Budget Act was passed in February and its updating and composition was left for until the end of April.

The government motivated its request for the postponement by its long-drawn negotiations with the trade unions and the employers, by the International Monetary Fund requirement to coordinate the second stage of the economic reform first, and by the lack of full information on the economic performance of in the first quarter.

The prime minister, Mr. Dimitur Popov, moved that the debate on the budget structure, composition and spending bill be postponed for after the passage of the constitution which should clarify the principles of financial interrelations in the state and formulate the types of ownership.

The minister of finance, Mr. Ivan Kostov, addressed parliament on the same subject. "In principle, the government budget cannot set requirements to the constitution provided that the government had a political dominant."

The extension of the budget update deadline was voted through by the socialist majority, although those of them who took the floor criticized the requested extension.

Had the government's proposal been defeated, the cabinet which Mr. Popov, an independent, formed in December 1990 after much hard bargaining, would have faced a serious test.

Popular Reaction to Marie-Louise's Visit Assessed

AU0705131291 Sofia BTA in English 1207 GMT 7 May 91

[Boyko Borisov report]

[Text] Sofia, May 7 (BTA)—The very first days of the sojourn of Princess Maria-Louisa in Bulgaria revealed that the private visit of the daughter of the deceased Bulgarian King Boris III has important political ramifications.

"The women in our family never engaged in politics," the princess stressed, while thousands of people chanted: "We want our king." The visit is private but the official authorities keep aloof, just in case. A rumour has spread that it is not by chance that some MP's are trying to avoid meeting with the princess.

After a year of an ever more frequent presence "in absentia," on the TV screen and in the press, of King Boris III's son Simeon (53), living in Spain, his elder sister arrived in Bulgaria at a time when the Grand National Assembly started its debates on the new constitution which is to determine the form of government in Bulgaria.

Despite the ideological and political differences between the parliamentary parties the majority of the MP's are staunch republicans. But there are monarchists in both major political forces. Some contest the legitimacy of the 1946 referendum which proclaimed Bulgaria a republic. Some assert that de jure Bulgaria is a kingdom.

Well-informed political circles here believe that the attempts to provoke the dissolution of parliament are aimed at preventing the adoption of a basic law containing the word "republic." Simeon II is making statements that he did not abdicate and that he is ready to take the burden of the crown.

In this context the fact that Maria-Louisa was welcomed by many thousands of people and that all her public appearances attracted numerous audiences gives much food for thought. A case in point was her meeting with Sofianites in the Palace of Culture.

All the 6,000 tickets were sold out before May 1. The monumental Palace of Culture built by Todor Zhivkov's daughter proved too small to hold all the admirers of Boris III's daughter. But even those sitting in the lobbies of the palace felt the charm of the princess, who radiated a combination of genuine joy at being in her homeland, inborn aristocraticism and American spontaneity.

"If God and the people will, it will be," said the princess at the end of the meeting, answering a question whether "Simeon will return to Bulgaria as a lawfully elected king."

"It will be, it will be. When two quarrel, the third wins," an enthusiastic viewer summed up the monarchists' hopes. Obviously, the "two" are the two major political forces the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) and the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS).

"The fact that I am here comes to show that Bulgaria has embarked on the road to democracy," the princess stressed. This is really an impressive fact, particularly after the failure of King Michael's visit to Romania.

But the nascent Bulgarian democracy has some unexpected and rather surprising aspects. For instance, there are the sociological surveys showing Todor Zhivkov's rising rating which have not been publicised (yet). There are also the recently published surveys according to which a considerable part of the population has withdrawn its support for the economic reforms leading to a market economy and is disapproving of it under the pressure of privations.

Over the decades many Bulgarians got accustomed to a listless yet calm, indigent and yet guaranteed existence in which one's life was predestined from the cradle to the grave by the omnipotent and omnipresent state. There was no need to think. These people are obviously seeking "the father of the nation" and expect the miraculous saviour to appear "riding a white horse."

How many are they? Some 9,000 voted for the monarchist parties in the latest elections. What about the forthcoming ones?

The princess's visit will give food for thought to analysts working for the "quarrelling two," the BSP and the SDS. Meanwhile, organizations of patriotic Bulgarians in Macedonia presented Princess Maria-Louisa with an invitation for Simeon asking him to attend the forthcoming "all-Macedonian gathering" which will be held in Blagoevgrad in late May.

Princess Meets Supporters

AU0605204091 Sofia BTA in English 2014 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Sofia, May 6 (BTA)—Asked whether she believes that her brother Simeon II will land on Bulgarian soil as a "legitimately elected Tsar of Bulgaria," Marie-Louise said that it would happen if God and the people wish so.

Thousands of people inside and outside the Palace of Culture where the Princess had a meeting with Sophianites tonight chanted "Simeon, Simeon."

The meeting was attended by about 5,000, mostly elderly, people. The funds raised from the sale of tickets will go to charities. The meeting was also attended by Mr. Konstantin Trenchev, president of the Podkrepa Labor Confederation, by Mr. Blagovest Sendov, chairman of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, by MP's and clergymen.

"My being here proves the fact that Bulgaria has embarked on the road to democracy," the Princess said in answer to one of the numerous questions which the audience showered on her. The Princess's sincere emotions, tactfulness and spontaneity made a wonderful impression on her admirers.

When the Princess told the audience that her brother will rule the country if such is the wish of God and the people, an elderly lady expressed what all the people in the hall felt at that moment: "It will surely happen. When two people quarrel it is the third one that wins." The lady obviously had in mind the two main political forces: the Bulgarian Socialist Party and the Union of Democratic Forces.

Zhivkov Bodyguard Testifies at Chernobyl Trial

AU0405154691 Sofia BTA in English 2213 GMT 3 May 91

[Text] Sofia, May 3 (BTA)—After the Chernobyl accident, in Bulgaria "there were issued instructions to keep complete silence over it," Todor Zhivkov's personal bodyguard Rumen Ralchev said today at the Sofia trial on the consequences of the 1986 Chernobyl accident. The defendants are a former deputy prime minister and a former deputy minister of health.

Todor Zhivkov himself was informed of the accident in the middle of the night of April 30 to May 1 by the then Soviet ambassador to Sofia Mr. Leonid Grekov. On the following day there was held a meeting of "high ranking officials." After this meeting the meals of the former No. 1 began to undergo radioactive control as well.

Employees of the former Security and Protection Department which provided bodyguard services and catered the party and state leaders, testified today that as early as May 2 a special radioactivity control commission was set up with their department. The maximum permissible levels set by the standing governmental

commission headed by the then deputy prime minister and now defendant at the trial, Grigor Stoichkov had seemed too high to the Security and Protection Department commission.

At today's hearing two witnesses gave contradictory evidence to the question whether the Bulgarians were exposed to an admissible level of radiation. It is difficult to say how the court will view this contradiction. One of the witnesses said that regardless of the standards the Bulgarians could have received a lower level of radiation exposure if there had been sufficient information and stricter control. But I do not know just how far our proposals reached and where they were stopped, the witness, who works at the Nuclear Medicine Institute, said.

Our meetings never mentioned a radioactive threat another witness said in connection with the sessions of a medical commission on the mass marathon held in Sofia on May 18.

Witness Questions IAEA's Chernobyl Assessment

AU0705213491 Sofia BTA in English 2030 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Sofia, May 7 (BTA)—"Hans Blix, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, made a gross mistake with his infinitely smiling and rosy prediction of the effects of the Chernobyl accident in Belorussia," said Mr. Bosevski, a medical corps officer, head of the Radiation Hygiene Laboratory at the Academy of Military Medicine, bearing witness at the Chernobyl trial today. He told the court that Mr. Blix, otherwise an authoritative official, was guided by some specific considerations on the development of nuclear power. Mr. Bosevski also called into question Mr. Blix's conclusions minimizing the effects for Bulgaria.

The witnesses called today blamed the defendants Grigor Stoichkov, former chairman of the Standing Governmental Commission for Management of Natural Disasters and Major Industrial Accidents, and Professor Lyubomir Shindarov, former sanitary inspector general, of acting inadequately to provide protection of the public against the effects of the accident.

Prof. Iliya Belokonski, former deputy chief of the Academy of Military Medicine, said that one Kiro Kirov, then secretary of the standing government commission, had forbidden him to deal with Chernobyl problems. Prof. Belokonski was told that their truth was not needed.

The evidence given by Prof. Tsvetan Vasilev, head of the Nuclear Physics Department at Sofia University, made it clear that the witness supplied Bulgaria's former Number One Todor Zhivkov with information on radiation levels and specifically on the hot particle fallout. The same professor travelled to Moscow on a confidential trip to see Academician Velikhov and hand him the hot particles information gathered in Bulgaria. The witness contended that the Soviet Union then ignored that factor, which a number of Bulgarian scientists believed could be a public health hazard.

One year after the ban on nuclear tests in the atmosphere, the average European was exposed to 15-20 becquerels per kilogramme of bodyweight; one year after the accident, the population of southern Bulgaria had 300 becquerels per kilogramme, the witness Bosevski said. He explained that the readings taken in the southern part of the country at that time were equal to the exposure figures of the people of Bryansk in the restricted zone in February-April 1987.

"Insignificant as it may seem, the average European exposure forced the superpowers to discontinue nuclear testing; since 1986, however, there are people who have been bargaining like shopkeepers about permissible doses and the likely fatality rate," Mr. Bosevski pointed out.

As time ran out, the parties to the case today did not take a stand on the witnesses who had defaulted their summons, including former supremo Todor Zhivkov.

The trial will resume tomorrow.

Poll on Freedom of Press Reported

AU0705104891 Sofia BTA in English 0853 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Sofia, May 7 (BTA)—Forty-six percent of respondents in a survey believe there is a drive against the freedom of press in this country, the "168 CHASA" weekly writes. 37 percent of respondents believe that the freedom of press is not in danger, while 17 percent expressed no opinion on this matter.

Who fears a free press? Most people point out the nomenklatura and the Bulgarian Socialist (ex-Communist) Party (BSP). The weekly finds it significant that 33 percent of respondents have said that both major political forces, the Union of Democratic Forces and the BSP, are interested in having the media under control. 24 percent of respondents believe that restrictions on the freedom of press serve the interests of Bulgaria's present leadership.

Both state bodies and politicians accused recently the editorial offices of some newspapers of "high treason." Various publications are frequently threatened with court action.

Resumption of Zhivkov's Trial Questioned

AU0705132091 Sofia BTA in English 1220 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Sofia, May 7 (BTA)—Bulgaria's former head of state suffers from Meniere's syndrome. Now he cannot supply himself with the necessary medicines from the West as he used to in the past, a well-informed source asserts.

Zhivkov has had the disease for some time but at present he is being treated with substitutes of those medicines.

According to the same source, the case will probably be dropped unless Zhivkov's health improves.

The medical commission appointed by the panel of judges hearing the case is expected to pronounce itself on Zhivkov's health condition within ten days and to decide whether he will be able to appear in court.

Greek Banks To Grant $50 Million Credit

AU0605202491 Sofia BTA in English 1927 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Sofia, May 6 (BTA)—The difficulties connected with granting Bulgaria a 50 million-dollar credit have proved surmountable after all. A group of Bulgarian experts will meet with representatives of the Greek banking circles to draft a contract that will define the terms for granting and utilizing the credit. This was announced after a meeting between Mr. Atanas Paparizov, minister of foreign economic relations of Bulgaria, and his Greek counterpart, Mr. Sotirios Khatzigakis, who is visiting the Plovdiv fair.

A part of the credit will probably be used to settle Bulgaria's 14-million-dollar debt. The Greek minister said that his country is showing understanding for the changes in Bulgaria's economic legislation and views them in the context of the global economic changes. Greece will help speed up Bulgaria's integration into the European Communities. Joint ventures will probably also contribute to this end.

St. George's Day Celebrated as Day of Valor

AU0605170891 Sofia BTA in English 1521 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Sofia, May 6 (BTA)—On the initiative of the Bulgarian Officers' Legion, St. George's Day was celebrated today as the Day of Valor and the Bulgarian Army although after two-day debates (May 3-4) parliament failed to reach an agreement on the matter. The celebrations were attended by President Zhelyu Zhelev.

During the parliamentary debates on whether to restore May 6 as the Day of Valor and the Bulgarian Army, Mr. Yordan Mutafchiev, minister of defense, pointed out that the Day of the Army should unite the Army. Hence, according to him, being a Christian religious holiday, St. George's Day is inappropriate because in the Bulgarian Army there are people professing other religions as well. Similar objections were raised by MP's of the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP). A representative of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms (DPS), which is supported mainly by the ethnic Turks, told parliament that the DPS has nothing against proclaiming May 6 as the Day of the Bulgarian Army. A MP of the Bulgarian Agrarian Party (BZNS) said that the Day of Valor should not be separated from the Day of the Army. Despite the insistence of the opposition parliament failed to reach a consensus and handed the matter over to the government.

The Bulgarian Legion issued a statement on May 4 refuting Mr. Mutafchiev's allegations that the legion had agreed to have another day proclaimed as the Day of the Army. The legion has always been of the opinion that May 6 should be celebrated as the Day of Valor and the Bulgarian Army.

Gorubso Miners' Strike Declaration Issued

AU0605191891 Sofia BTA in English 1811 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Sofia, May 6 (BTA)—On May 3 over 4,000 miners of the Gorubso Company went on strike. Today their number is 8,706, it is said in a declaration received at BTA. The declaration, which is addressed to the government, points out that the present social unrest is a result of the unsolved problems of the miners that have built up over the years.

On behalf of the miners the trade union organizations with the two big trade union amalgamations: the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions (CNSB) and the Podkrepa Confederation of Labor demand the immediate resignation of directors of the Gorubso Company. Among their other demands are: a pay rise, a 6-hour working day, the passage of an act that will entitle miners to employment accident and life insurances paid out of the state funds and regular inspections of the conditions in all mines.

The strike will continue until all the demands of the miners are satisfied.

Russia's Yeltsin To Address Federal Assembly

LD0705183691 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1630 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Boris Yeltsin, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, will in the course of his visit to Czechoslovakia address a joint session of both chambers of the Federal Assembly on 14 May.

According to Deputy Miroslav Sychra, this was decided today by the Foreign Affairs Committee at a closed session. Miroslav Sychra also said that in the opinion of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of the People, preparations for Boris Yeltsin's visit to Czechoslovakia have been catastrophic. Deputies also protested against the fact that they were not briefed in time on the contents of a declaration that is to be signed with the chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation. Some of its passages do not yet seem acceptable to them.

Prime Minister Calfa Gives Weekly Interview

LD0305212191 Prague Federal 1 Television Network in Czech 1752 GMT 3 May 91

[Interview with Czechoslovak Prime Minister Marian Calfa by unidentified reporter; place and date not given—live or recorded; Calfa speaks in Slovak]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, last time it was not me interviewing you, because you were just on your way back from Nigeria. Therefore we have missed the important events in Slovakia. Last weekend you attended the Public Against Violence [VPN] congress, so let me ask you what your view is on the Federal Government's relationship and on how things will develop, following the Slovak Government reshuffle, with the new prime minister, Mr. Carnogursky.

[Calfa] Well, we in the Federal Government—and in the republican governments, too—are doing things together. We are carrying out the economic reform, and there it is absolutely clear that all three governments must do things together. We have been very concerned by the Slovak Government's inability to act, and lately we have not been receiving the necessary input and cooperation. The government has been reconstructed in a way; it is not yet complete at this moment, but I have information that in the next few days it is to be finalized. We can only hope that the government has the calm it needs to work, that it truly begins to act as the highest executive body of state power in Slovakia, and that we, too, get input from it—because if we build a strategy and the republican governments implement it, then we need feedback from them to enable us to make corrections to our decisions. We have not been getting enough of this feedback, and I now expect this situation to improve and to benefit us all. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Nevertheless, citizens understandably perceive the situation a bit differently. They assess all these positive reports through great awareness of climbing prices, growing unemployment, and a number of social phenomena that testify to serious problems from the point of view of living standards and people's feelings. I think that one feels sometimes that we discuss more than anything the issue of distributing various social benefits, or how much we will pay in pensions and minimal wages. Nevertheless, I have the feeling that the resources to be used to pay for it are being created very slowly. How would you assess entrepreneurial activities and enterprises' activities from this point of view?

[Calfa] [passage omitted] If entreprenerial activities are healthy, then our state gains income from it and can subsequently distribute that money. So far the philosophy has been different—we simply distributed and took money from the sphere of entrepreneurship to obtain money to provide for social standards that were set up from a political point of view. [passage omitted] The priority is really to ensure that somebody works to produce money, to produce it through entreprenerial activity. In substance, the principal task of our state is to create suitable conditions in this sphere.

[Reporter] In my view, unemployment has been causing us greater trouble than was originally envisaged. I would like to ask you a personal question, as you are a deputy for VPN in Eastern Slovakia, where these problems are most sensitive, most painful. My last question is whether any specific steps are being taken regarding this issue.

[Calfa] The worst possible course of action would be not to pay attention to entreprenerial activities and to concentrate on tackling unemployment through state benefits, payments from the state budget, or from the budgets of communal representative bodies; in other words, from the state sphere. [passage omitted] The medicine is not to provide state benefits; the medicine is to create jobs.

As far as Eastern Slovakia is concerned—and I feel considerable sympathy for it—I have to say that it is not a simple thing to solve, as there are no alternative jobs available there. If there are enterprises there that do not have any future, and they have been halting their production, then there is no other way than to set up other enterprises with different activities, which would give jobs to people.

I am prepared to admit that during my trips abroad I am directing activities suitable for that region. We have also discussed the possibility of completing the highway between Liptov in the south and Poprad, and in fact as far as Presov. [passage omitted]

Dobrovsky Defends Army, Discusses Slimak's Recall

AU0605145891 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 30 Apr 91 p 2

[Rostislav Rod and Josef Tucek report: "General Slimak Has Been Recalled"]

[Text] Lieutenant General Anton Slimak, chief of the Czechoslovak General Staff, has been recalled. In recent months he has been the main target of attacks conducted against the Army. These attacks have sometimes been backed up by cogent arguments. An order from the president of the Republic—made public yesterday—determined that he be recalled as of 1 May.

The new chief of the General Staff and first deputy defense minister is Major General Karel Pezl. Until now he was an adviser to the defense minister. "This does not mean, however, that his departure from an important post is an expression of incompetence or mistrust," declared Defense Minister Lubos Dobrovsky at yesterday's assembly of senior Army officers in connection with General Slimak's recall. "It is necessary to get used to greater movement in Army posts. General Slimak will not be lost to the Army; his experience and diligence will be put to sufficient use elsewhere." Lieutenant General Slimak was especially accused by Army critics of allowing documents concerning military activity in November 1989 to be destroyed. Following the recall of Army General Miroslav Vacek from the post of defense minister last October, observers expected that General Slimak would soon follow. However, new Minister Lubos Dobrovsky several times publicly expressed his faith in the Army's leading representatives, including Anton Slimak. Before General Slimak became chief of the General Staff, he was in charge of the intelligence administration, that is, military intelligence. The kind of new career being prepared for this general (50 years old this year) is, so far, unknown.

At yesterday's assembly, Minister Dobrovsky also reacted to Friday's [24 April] interpellation by Federal Assembly Deputy Michal Maly, in which the deputy, among other things, cast doubts on our Army's capability for action and criticized the personnel situation because generals and officers linked to the former regime hold responsible positions in its command.

"Despite the fact that Deputy Michal Maly's interpellation contains a whole series of errors and inaccuracies—including information sometimes acquired second and third hand—and incriminates senior officers in our Army, we have to consider it," said the minister. However, he rejected the implications that the Army is not loyal to the current state and is not prepared to defend the country. General Karel Pezl added that the Army has still not officially received a copy of Deputy Maly's interpellation; its contents are known only from the press. "Naturally, we are not as well prepared as the American Air Force in the Persian Gulf War. We cope with everything our technology and our economic situation will allow. Everything is in order in the vital professions in particular," he stressed. Nevertheless, he conceded that life in the Army is considerably influenced by the transfer of troops from the western borders and by the destruction of 40-60 percent of heavy military technology.

Langos Submits Second Reply to Slusovice Question

AU0705131091 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 2 May 91 p 16

["(nel)"-signed report: "At Least Three People Knew About It"]

[Text] On 30 April Federal Interior Minister Jan Langos sent another reply to Federal Assembly Deputy Stanislav Devaty in connection with his interpellation concerning the situation in the Slusovice Agricultural Enterprise and the links between the cooperative's leading representatives and the former State Security.

Mr. Langos states that in his first reply he imparted all the information he had at his disposal at that time. Following another inquiry into the facts highlighted in the interpellation, the Interior Ministry acquired new information. So far, he has not come across any document verifying that a cooperation agreement had been signed between the National Security Corps [SNB] First Administration and the Slusovice Agricultural Enterprise. However, this does not mean there were no contacts between them. On 17 May 1988, a verbal agreement was concluded on mutually advantageous cooperation between the SNB First Administration's scientific-technical intelligence department and the Slusovice Agricultural Enterprise. It is apparent from the former intelligence department's records that the agreement was thoroughly fulfilled.

"According to regular practice at that time, highly placed nomenklatura cadres could not be associated with the agency," writes the interior minister in his reply. "Therefore, their relationship with the SNB First Administration was classed as official contacts. At the same time, however, all types of their activity were subjugated to the current principles and regulations on the agency's conspiratorial practice.... In connection with the first meeting, the intelligence department's records state that the cooperative's representatives—who are named in the files—agreed with the methods and orientation of the cooperation suggested by the SNB First Administration's staff and that they adopted an active stance toward future contacts and cooperation. Three Slusovice Agricultural Enterprise representatives knew that they were cooperating with the intelligence service."

It is also obvious from the minister's reply that Slusovice and the intelligence service had an agreement on a method for importing embargoed goods, materials, and technologies. Staff from the SNB First Administration guaranteed the conveyance of such goods by illegal means.

Minister Langos points out to Deputy Devaty that the investigation into the entire Slusovice case is continuing. Therefore, at the moment he cannot provide him with all the information he has come across.

Military Intelligence 'Unbelievably Ineffective'

AU0805100991

[Editorial Report] Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech on 2 May on page 11, under the headline "'Counterintelligencer'—a Lonely Runner" publishes a 1,200-word interview with Jan Solc, a member of the Competence Inquiry Commission investigating Czechoslovak military counterintelligence, by LIDOVE NOVINY correspondent Zdenek Pokorny. In the interview, the place and date of which are not given, Pokorny asks specifically about the relationship between the counterintelligence and the State Security, the involvement of the KGB, and the actual operation of the service.

Jan Solc begins by explaining that, although the primary task of counterespionage should be protection against foreign intelligence, from 1970, the orientation of the Czechoslovak military counterintelligence (VKR) was different. "The State Security investigators in the VKR" were reporting soldiers for subversion, defamation of the Republic and its representatives, defamation of a socialist-bloc state, spreading and support of fascism and similar movements. In practice, this meant searching among the soldiers for those who told political jokes" and so on. Solc observes that "repression for ideological diversion significantly increased."

Asked about the relationship between State Security and the VKR, Solc says that the Kosice Government policy statement (1945) requested that a military intelligence be established and subordinated to the army general staff. "However, due to Soviet pressure, as early as 1951 the unit was controlled by the Ministry of National Security. This was the beginning of the double subordination of Czechoslovak military counterespionage and in fact its enslavement." In addition, Solc notes, "a KGB representative was delegated to be close to the head of the VKR Main Administration."

The interviewer observes that "based on the results of the commission's investigations, the minister of national defense has decided to include approximately 70 officers of the 700 formerly employed in the VKR in the new defense intelligence organization," and inquires how the selection was done. Solc replies that the commission had at its disposal the results of earlier screenings, personal files, amended resumes, and two evaluations since 1970. Moreover, he adds, there was an analysis of more than 7,000 letters from both the military and the civilian public. According to Solc, ethics were the most important criterion in deciding whether an officer is suitable for the work.

Solc recapitulates the record of VKR operations: "Of the 298 people detained for alleged spying, 17 were fined for entering military areas. In 1981, the VKR passed onto the State Security investigators in the VKR only 20 cases of initiative reconnaissance [iniciativni spionaz]. The VKR cost millions, and yet, it was unbelievably ineffective."

Asked about the use of violence, Solc asserts that not a single case of open violence has been detected, and no legal complaints have been lodged against former VKR officers.

Former Intelligence 'Collaborator' Arrested

AU0805083291 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 30 Apr 91 p 16

["(vyb)"-signed report: "Captain Minarik in Custody"]

[Text] Prague—On 25 April, the Czech Republic Prosecutor General's Office took Doctor of Social Sciences Pavel Minarik, Candidate of Sciences—Czechoslovak Intelligence Service collaborator—into custody for setting up a terrorist attack against Radio Free Europe.

Let us recall the main chapters of his life. From 1969 to 1976 he was a Radio Free Europe announcer. In January 1976 he returned to Prague. At a memorable news conference on 29 January 1976 he disclosed the "dirty practices" prevailing in Radio Free Europe and among our emigrants. As an intelligence agent active behind the enemy lines, he was honored by the press and decorated with the order of the Red Star. Later, he became chief editor of SIGNAL magazine, and after November, a member of the new Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

P. Minarik's activity among emigrants is the subject of an inquiry by a special team of investigators from the Czech Republic Prosecutor General's Office in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of the Interior. The accused is being prosecuted for endangering the public according to Article 179, Paragraph 3, of the criminal code. Among other things, investigators are examining whether he was aware of the fact that he could cause death by his act. For this criminal act, the law permits the most severe penalties—12 to 25 years in prison or life imprisonment. Minarik has made a complaint against his being taken into custody.

According to the information made available to us, Radio Free Europe requested some time ago that the Prosecutor General's Office investigate the circumstances under which a bomb attack was carried out against the Czechoslovak section of Radio Free Europe in February 1981. The explosion inflicted serious injuries on three employees of the section and caused extensive damage to property.

State Bank Head Gives Details on Talks on Loans

AU0305161691 Prague CTK in English 2016 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Washington April 30 (CTK)— President of the State Bank of Czechoslovakia Josef Tosovsky today gave details to CTK on talks he conducted with the World

Bank and other institutions during the spring session of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in Washington.

Before leaving Washington he said he discussed the conditions of a 500 million dollar loan to Czechoslovakia with representatives of the European Community. These discussions are to be concluded in May.

He conferred with World Bank Vice-President Moeen Qureshi about a loan of 450 million dollars which is to be provided to Czechoslovakia in three installments next June and July to cover the country's budget deficit.

Tosovsky said he also met representatives of the U.S. Treasury Department to discuss their assistance in founding a banking institute in Czechoslovakia. The Czechoslovak side will provide the premises and the U.S. side will equip and finance the institute for two years.

Tosovsky also discussed with U.S. officials the conditions that will be attached to a 1,000 million dollar loan that Czechoslovakia has been promised by the group of 24 countries.

First Quarter Economic Results Satisfy IMF

AU0705153391 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 3 May 91 p 1

["Do"-signed report: "IMF Issues a Quarterly Report; the Government Passed With Honors"]

[Text] The development of macroeconomic indicators in the first quarter of 1991, i.e. in the first three months of the reform implementation, is more than satisfactory and those responsible deserve top marks, Bijan Aghevli, head of the IMF inspection team, stated yesterday at a news conference, attended by Minister of Finance Vaclav Klaus.

The inspection team checked the four main indicators, according to which the IMF releases the loan to make up the deficit in the Czechoslovak balance of payments. The net credit to the public sector improved by more than the planned 11 billion korunas, the limit of net domestic operations in the banking system was set at 600 billion korunas, the net foreign currency reserves have not declined below $900 million, and loans for purposes other than balancing the accounts have not exceeded $1 billion.

The mission concluded that economic reform must not lose its momentum because otherwise its realization—which began on such a promising note—would be threatened. The IMF admits that the situation was considerably complicated by the deterioration in world market conditions and the collapse of trade with the CEMA countries. Nevertheless, the programmed stages of the reform are continuing according to plan and that definitely requires support from external sources, of which one of the main ones is the loan from the IMF. This does not only mean the loan itself, but also its effect as a guarantee that attracts funds from other sources.

In response to the question regarding the possibility of a different course of implementation of reform in Slovakia, both the IMF representative and the minister of finance re-emphasized that reform can only have one systemic character, and that it does not have any specifically national features, although some regions deserve special consideration.

Minister Klaus commented on the decline of production in the first quarter, saying that it was caused by the collapse of the CEMA market rather than by the implementation of reform. The IMF representative added that this is the reason why Czechoslovak industry must change its orientation to other markets, where it apparently could not succeed with its present range of goods. Therefore, restructuring and reform as a whole must be accelerated. The growth in unemployment has not been excessive so far (only 6 percent of the amount assigned for unemployment benefits was drawn in the first quarter) and the best defense against it is economic growth, i.e., again acceleration of the reform.

Subsequent dealings of the IMF mission in Czechoslovakia will take place at the beginning of June, at which time, there will be data available on the economic developments at the beginning of the second quarter.

Inspectors List 104 Defects in Nuclear Plants

LD0705184191 Prague CTK in English 1345 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Prague May 7 (CTK)—A total of 104 defects were registered at Czechoslovakia's nuclear power plants last year one of which was of the 2nd degree on the seven-degree international nuclear events scale (INES), three of the 1st degree and 100 of the zero degree.

Up to degree 3 of the INES no radioactivity leak is involved.

Meeting with journalists here today, Zdenek Kriz, chief inspector of the Czechoslovak Commission for Atomic Energy (CSKAE), also spoke about inspections carried out by the commission in the plants at Jaslovske Bohnice, West Slovakia, and Dukovany, South Moravia, last year.

The commission paid special attention to the V1 unit at Jaslovske Bohunice which has been strongly criticised by Austria. A set of 81 measures to raise the unit's safety has been worked out. The measures are to be carried out in 1991-92 at a cost of 1,500 million crowns (1 USD = 30 crowns).

The Jaslovske Bohunice plant was inspected last April by a mission of 16 experts from nine countries, Kriz said. Their conclusions supported practicaly all the measures recommended by the CSKAE.

But the mission was strongly critical of the management, organization of work and possibilities of independent inspection in the plant, Kriz said. He added that though the qualification of the staff is at a very high level, the regulations for operation are not often observed.

Discussion at the press conference concentrated on the safety of the A1 unit at Jaslovske Bohunice after the 1977 break-down. Kriz said the danger to the environment still persists. It would be fully liquidated only if the burnt-out fuel were taken to the Soviet Union which is now being discussed. But talks are being conducted also with Britain, France and Germany.

Petr Horacek from the federal committee for the environment added that this situation is a big "sin" committed by the former communist regime whose rectification will cost hundreds of millions of crowns.

Two more nuclear plants are being built in Czechoslovakia, one at Mochovce, West Slovakia, and the other one at Temelin, South Bohemia.

At present, nuclear plants account for about 27 per cent of electric energy generation in Czechoslovakia.

CSSD Favors Social Democrats' Deputies Club

AU0605153291 Prague CTK in English 1150 GMT 30 Apr 91

[Text] Prague April 30 (CTK)— The Czechoslovak and Czech Governments are under strong right-wing pressure in the parliaments, Federal Assembly Deputy Ivan Fisera, Presidium member of the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party (CSSD), said at a press conference here today.

Federal Assembly Deputy Pavel Dostal said the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) plans a roundtable meeting of European social democratic parties in Bremen, Germany. The two social democratic groupings existing in Czechoslovakia (the CSSD and the Club of Social Democrats in the Civic Forum) will also take part. Dostal insisted the CSSD does not intend to be a rival of the Club of Social Democrats in the Civic Forum.

The CSSD is not in favor of moving up the date of the next parliamentary elections in Czechoslovakia (June 1992), as some politicians have urged, because any potentially destabilizing effect could discourage foreign investments in the country.

[Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech on 2 May on page 3 carries a 200-word "em"-signed report on the CSSD briefing, stating that the CSSD "would welcome" if CSSD deputies and members of parliament representing the Club of Social Democrats in the Civic Forum formed a "single club of deputies." The report also mentions that the "CSSD expresses full support for Alexander Dubcek and disagrees with the proposal to reconstruct the Federal Assembly Presidium." A 200-word Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech report on the briefing, published on 2 May on page 2, mentions that "P. Buzkova, one of the critics of the current party leadership, does not figure among the newly elected CSSD deputy chairmen."]

Klaus on Civic Democratic Party, Slovak Reform

AU0805095291 Bratislava VEREJNOST in Slovak 3 May 91 p 3

[Interview with Vaclav Klaus, chairman of the Civic Democratic Party and federal minister of finance, by Ivan Rajecky; place and date not given: "Stopping the Reform Will Result in a Disaster"—first paragraph is VEREJNOST introduction]

[Text] The separation of the two platforms of the Public Against Violence movement is not analogous to the split of the Civic Forum in Bohemia. In this case, one can admit the existence of specific Slovak characteristic. If we can observe a trend in Bohemia toward strengthening the right side of the political spectrum, in Slovakia the differentiation leans to the left. The following questions were given to Vaclav Klaus not as the minister of finance but rather as the chairman of a right-wing party that has a clear perception of its role on the political scene.

[Rajecky] If political seismographs existed, in the recent past they would have recorded sizable tremors in Slovakia. Perhaps, they indirectly involve your party as well. Suddenly, there are two partners—the Public Against Violence movement [VPN] and VPN-For Democratic Slovakia [ZDS]—instead of a single one, or are there even more of them? Which one are you going to choose for a coalition partner?

[Klaus] The Civic Democratic Party [ODS] considers itself to be bound by the agreement between the Civic Forum from which it stems, and the VPN. It is up to the VPN platforms to find a mechanism of joint communication between themselves and other coalition partners. This is the only way to fulfill the obligations we, as the ruling party, have toward our voters.

With respect to our future: The key to who our future coalition partners are going to be can be found in the policy statement "The Road to Prosperity" that was adopted at the constituent congress of the ODS in Olomouc. We expect that the process of clarification on the political scene in Slovakia will lead to the formation of a party structure similar to the one instituted in the Czech Republic. The parties right of the center will become our natural partners and allies. Thus far, the situation in this respect is rather unintelligible, the political and particularly the economic policies of individual parties are very confused and full of contradictions. We have to wait for a while.

[Rajecky] It is generally known that of the Slovak economy ministers you stand closest to the former Deputy Prime Minister Jozef Kucerak. Despite some minor differences, on the whole, you are on the same

platform, you have the same philosophy on the economic reform. How do you intend to cooperate with him in the future?

[Klaus] Jozef Kucerak is not only a politician with great civic courage but also a brilliant economist whose opinion I value. I hope that Jozef Kucerak will still participate in the implementation of the economic reform.

[Rajecky] Do you think that specific, national conditions for economic reform really could exist, or is radical economic reform the only path to success? The former Slovak Republic Government Minister Augustin M. Huska, for instance, claims that one must assist the enterprises and that people must be systematically prepared for what awaits them in the economic reform.

[Klaus] Of course, there might be some specific, local, regional, sector, or national conditions that would result in different consequences of the reform changes in different regions. That is the heritage of the centrally planned economy that intentionally created different conditions for each individual enterprise, region, or republic. This selective approach was the fundamental principle of central planning.

The target of the market reform we are in the process of implementing is to remove these differences, and form equal conditions for all market participants. It is precisely the equal attitude toward all entities that is the fundamental principle of the market.

[Rajecky] The adversaries of radical reform speak about the fast growing unemployment in Slovakia as a result of this reform—currently it is 116,000 people, that is half as much again as in Bohemia and Moravia. Hence, in Slovakia the economic reform keeps acquiring adjectives like anti-national, drastic, inhuman, bound-to-collapse....

[Klaus] It is true that in the short run, the reform will have more negative consequences in Slovakia. This must be dealt with by increased activity in the area of social networks, worker retraining, but mostly by intensive support for job creation programs, particularly in the private sector. Any attempt to stop or change the reform would lead us to certain disaster.

ODS Lays Claim to Any Future Government Posts

AU0705130991 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 2 May 91 p 16

[Unattributed report: "Changes in Parliament?"]

[Text] Prague—The Civic Democratic Party's [ODS] Republican Executive Council held its first regular session on 30 April. Among other things, its members discussed methods for financing the party, operating an information network, and publishing a weekly called TELEGRAF. The council discussed the Civic Forum Coordinating Committee's activity and came to the conclusion that, so far, it has not fulfilled its role. Therefore, it appointed the ODS' most senior representatives to its ranks with the proviso that a satisfactory measure also be demanded from the Civic Movement. The Council underlined its point of view that the ODS will not force immediate changes in the governments. However, it is insisting upon adherence to the agreement that government posts vacated for any reason be filled by ODS candidates. It commented that this agreement never involved the Federal Assembly Presidium and its committees; therefore, in this regard, the ODS is resolved to develop specific activity.

Leader of Czech Communists on Party's Position

AU0605185191

[Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 25 April on pages 1 and 3 carries a 2,000-word interview with Jiri Svoboda, chairman of the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia (KSCM), by Vaclav Pergl entitled "A Modern Leftist Party? That Was a Slogan." The interview, the place and date of which are not given, deals with the KSCM's position on the political scene and with the reasons for the KSCM's decision to publish its own daily.

In his opening reply, Svoboda corrects the interviewer's introduction of the KSCM chairman as "one of the founders of the Civic Forum." He says that "it would be immodest to claim that I am one of the Civic Forum founders." Svoboda merely attended the Civic Forum's constituent meeting in the Drama Club on 19 November 1989, to which he had been invited by Jiri Krizan, now an adviser of the president, who was familiar with Svoboda's critical views.

Svoboda goes on to comment on his assessment of the developments in Czechoslovakia after the November 1989 revolution and the position on the KSCM, among other political parties. He asserts that, prior to November 1989, "there was no socialism" in Czechoslovakia, but a form of "state capitalism, administered and controlled by a narrow bureaucratic party nomenklatura." This "new class" at the head of the state "was incapable of any adaptation," he says, which is why even the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia congress planned for 1990 "would not have brought any change for the better." Although the November 1989 revolution was the only way to bring about "systemic changes" in the country, Svoboda says, in the meantime Czechoslovakia has arrived at a junction: "One way from here leads to a democratic civic society, the other is the harsh confrontationist path of social revenge and historical recriminations."

Speaking about the KSCM's position, Svoboda says that it wants to maintain good relations with "all parties seeking the preservation of a pluralistic, democratic environment." To speak about contacts with other left-wing parties is difficult, he says, for it is not clear which

parties are left wing. The "spectrum of parties from left to right does not exist yet," in the opinion of the KSCM chairman.

The interviewer then confronts Svoboda with the views of V. Mohorita and M. Kraus, two internal critics of the KSCM's policies, who claim that "lack of tolerance is growing in strength in the KSCM and that its transformation into a modern left-wing party has come to a halt." Svoboda replies that he does not like "categorical judgments and big simplifications" such as those used by Mohorita and Kraus. He believes that a modern left-wing party is "just a slogan" and that none of the critics of the KSCM has defined what this concept is supposed to mean. In Svoboda's view, modernity lies in "true and qualified information." Svoboda also points out that the promoters of reform in the KSCM are not always paragons of tolerance themselves: "No one has a monopoly on truth. 'Reformism' in itself does not always represent tolerance—in history it has often been tied up with sectarianism."

Svoboda says that his party's policies are guided by practical, rather than ideological, considerations: "We will support free of ideological prejudice every government that seeks prosperity and economic development for the benefit of honest, working people, regardless of whether it calls itself a right-of-center or a left-of-center government. On the other hand, we will not support a government that enforces the interests of a small minority, that spreads intolerance and an atmosphere of confrontation, that serves it as a smokescreen for concealing professional mistakes, new nepotism, and a new nomenklatura."

In his concluding replies, Svoboda discusses the motives for the KSCM's decision to publish its own daily, which will be called HALO NOVINY. He says that every party that wants to play a major role in society needs a platform to express its views on the economic, political, and social situation. The KSCM does not have this platform, he says, as "RUDE PRAVO is today a large daily that is above party affairs." Moreover, the state media do not invite KSCM representatives to round-table debates about economic issues and "take an interest in our party exclusively in connection with the law on the property of the former Communist Party of Czechoslovakia."

Svoboda admits that the planned publication of a KSCM daily is a "risky undertaking," for the party cannot afford to subsidize the newspaper, which means that it must be published in at least 80,000 copies. He asserts that HALO NOVINY will not be published "to spite RUDE PRAVO" but that it will be a "competitor for all dailies." Svoboda mentions that the first trial issue will be published on 1 May.

Prospects for ODA, ODS Merger Viewed

LD0705191391 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1330 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] The standpoint of the Civic Democratic Alliance [ODA] on a merger with the Civic Democratic Party [ODS] was given by Pavel Bratinka, chairman of the Alliance, at a news conference today. It appears that a merger is possible in the future while still preserving the identity of the Civic Democratic Alliance. The prospect of unification, however, is not immediate. Both parties have much in common, such as their views on what society should be like and their conviction that only the existence of a large right-wing party will give a long-term guarantee of freedom for the country. The problem, in the view of the Civic Democratic Alliance, is how to create the unified party.

Interrelations of Civic Forum's Political Heirs

AU0505185891 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 27 Apr 91 p 2

[Eva Martinkova commentary: "Political Triangle"]

[Text] If it is a weekend, an assembly must take place—what else, in a state with more than 50 political parties, movements, and initiatives. Three of them, classified by the common adjective civic, selected the April weekends for their formation. Since all of them are scions of the glorified as well as damned Civic Forum, the public closely watches not only them but their interrelations as well.

The Civic Democratic Alliance [ODA] and the Civic Democratic Party [ODS] demonstrate an exemplary accord on the right, and although so far no announcements have been made, an election coalition is expected. However, the relationship with the third sibling, the Civic Movement [OH], sparks quarrels with the original family as if they were all ashamed that they came from a single November nest. ODS, ODA, OH—the similarity of these abbreviations worries even the television commentators who recently caused moderate chaos by announcing that the ODS does not consider the ODA leadership to be legitimate. The ODS objected very sharply through the mouth of its Deputy Chairman Petr Cermak—it considers the OH leadership to be illegitimate and not that of the ODA! The statement made in the Television Journal, he said, certainly is not just a slip of the announcer's tongue but an intention by the television management to split the right....

ODA Deputy Chairman Daniel Kroupa defined his movement's relationship with the Civic Movement rather comprehensively. He would welcome it if the OH realized that the era of leftist ideas is over and began to build on the basis of European liberalism. If it does, it will be a welcome partner for the ODA. "So far, however, it looks as if the OH is waiting for social difficulties to create a situation that would make the thought of bringing back socialism plausible," Daniel Kroupa said.

His words are a gauntlet thrown at Saturday's assembly of the Civic Movement, which has the opportunity to clarify to itself as well as to the public whether it will decide in favor of the political center or a slight step left of it. Clarification of its position might help to elucidate the relationships in the domestic political triangle.

Charter 77 Protests Arms Sales to Middle East

LD0705183491 Prague CTK in English 1518 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Prague, Bratislava May 7 (CTK)—The 1991 spokespersons of the Charter 77 human rights movement condemned the intended sale of over 100 Czechoslovak tanks to Syria and Iran in an open letter sent to leading Czechoslovak representatives and bodies.

"We presume that it (the sale) is to be one of the steps to solve difficulties of former arms producers, people threatened by unemployment", said the letter addressed to President Vaclav Havel and Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier, former Charter 77 spokesmen, the Czechoslovak, Czech and Slovak parliaments.

The sale of tanks to the Middle East would "threaten the fragile balance, peace and the lives of people, and shake the confidence our country won abroad thanks to its recent development", the letter said.

"The spontaneous attitude of the U.S. trying to dissuade us from our intended step proves the gravity of such a step. We thus place ourselves among disrespected states in the decision-making of which it is possible to publicly intervene", the letter said.

(U.S. Ambassador to Czechoslovakia Shirley Temple-Black handed a note to Czechoslovak Deputy Foreign Minister Martin Palous yesterday in which the U.S. protests the prepared arms sales to Syria and Iran.)

Pithart Interviewed on Ministerial Posts

LD0805081391 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1700 GMT 7 May 91

[Interview with Czech Prime Minister Petr Pithart by unidentified reporter; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, there have been many conjectures recently as to the empty post of the Czech first deputy prime minister. Can you throw some light on the matter?

[Pithart] Yes, naturally, it is not at all that complicated. Mr. Deputy Prime Minister Vlsak has been considering his departure for some time already, for health reasons; he will soon be 80. When he fell ill last December, I was thinking, with his knowledge, about who should take his place. It should be an economist, acquainted with the problems of transformation, and someone who has courage—someone who cannot be deterred by difficulties. I also thought of Mr. Minister Dlouhy for this post; we had a preliminary talk about it. He considered the possibility, but then he himself decided that at the moment his place is in the Federal Government. Then the topic of screening came up—and at that time I was against any personnel changes, because whoever left his post at that time could be unjustly suspect. [passage omitted]

I considered another candidate and found him, so far, in Mr. Kratky, deputy general director of the Commercial Bank. I have known him for years. He is expert, hard-working, modest—a mountain climber, by the way. He has been my economic advisor for a while. By a lucky coincidence, he is a member of the Civic Democratic Party. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] I have another sensitive question for you: The daily PRACE mentioned yesterday the instability of the chair of Minister of Agriculture Kubat. There has been conjecture surrounding this matter for some time. For example, the fact that the above-mentioned minister, as a fighter against the Slusovice Mafia, does not satisfy you for this very reason.

[Pithart] That is an illusion—artificially propagated at that—I fear, by the very minister. I have doubted that the minister has noble aims—for example, struggle against the so-called agricultural mafias. But the manner of their being attained, in my view, is somewhat unfortunate. [passage omitted] The main thing, however, is that Minister Kubat behaves in the government, in the key questions of his department, as a representative of the opposition to this government—and that is not possible in any government in the world. The government is a working team, and its members, therefore, must sow the necessary minimum of solidarity toward each other. They must be able to agree with one another so that one of them is not tempted to thwart the work of the others. Mr. Kubat, obviously, does not feel solidarity with the government, which he declared openly by signifying the castle as the only reason why he is still in the government. He has made his position unstable, not by his struggle against Slusovice, but only by his character features. Inasmuch as he does not want to admit it, he is saying that dissatisfaction with him is caused by what he is concerned about. I stress, that is not the case; it is caused by the manner used by Mr. Minister Kubat. He enjoys the support of various radicals who refer to the Czech Government and myself personally as instruments of Slusovice. That is a completely outrageous explanation.

[Reporter] In these circumstances, can Mr. Minister Kubat remain in the Czech Government?

[Pithart] In my view, he cannot. If the Presidium of the Czech National Council is acquainted with this, I should like to offer this chair to someone whose personality and political orientation will in itself be evidence of the nonsensical nature of these conjectures as to what is behind this. We may remember that the recall of Mr. Minister Moldan was accompanied by similar conjectures—allegedly, it was also the work of various mafias.

The very personality of his successor, Minister Dejmal, unequivocally quells this suspicion. [passage omitted]

Former Deputy Prime Minister Elected VPN Head

LD0805040491 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 2000 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] At today's session in Bratislava, the Slovak Council of Public Against Violence [VPN] in a secret ballot elected [former Slovak deputy prime minister] Jozef Kucerak the new VPN chairman. The other three candidates were Juraj Flamik [member of VPN Slovak Council], Vladimir Ondrus [former Slovak deputy prime minister], and Sona Szomolanyiova [former Slovak National Council deputy].

Gal Addresses Rumors of Emigration to UK

AU0705130791 Prague SVOBODNE SLOVO in Czech 3 May 91 p 4

["(ben)"-signed report: "F. Gal Is Not Running Away"]

[Text] Rumors, half-truths, and those who spread them thrive at all times. The latest rumor reached us directly from Bratislava. Fedor Gal, chairman of the Public Against Violence [VPN] movement Slovak Council, has—apparently—had enough, "is packing his bags," and is leaving the country. The truth, however, is a little different. Mr. Gal will continue to head the VPN, despite the fact that he really is going abroad. He is only going for a few weeks of special study in Great Britain. He has had an invitation to work there as a sociologist for several months now. As he himself explained, to date he has turned down all similar offers, but now he sees no reason why, at the age of 46, he should not experience for the first time what a state-of-the-art workplace is like. It is simply an opportunity that anyone in his field who wants to learn and prove something would seize. Why not VPN Slovak Council Chairman Fedor Gal!

Carnogursky Interrupted by Whistles at Rally

AU0705165491 Prague CTK in English 1410 GMT 4 May 91

[Text] Bratislava May 4 (CTK)— Slovak Premier Jan Carnogursky said today the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic in 1918 was "one of the brightest moments in our history also because Czechoslovakia was not in international isolation, but on the contrary, it was in unity with other nations."

"Thanks to the united course of action with democratic nations and states we won freedom, but when we abandoned this line, we lost it. Let us remember this historical lesson," Carnogursky said.

He was speaking at a monument to Milan Rastislav Stefanik (1880-1919), one of the greatest figures in Slovakia's history. Stefanik was a general in the French Army, a leading representative abroad of the resistance movement during World War I, co-founder of the Czechoslovak Republic, and army minister in the new republic.

Carnogursky said Stefanik was the only Slovak representative in his time commanding such an authority which would have allowed him to effectively push through the interests of Slovakia. "His premature death was a tragedy for our nation," Carnogursky added.

"No other Slovak official could equal Stefanik neither for his stature at home nor for his international experience and authority. A vacuum was created in Slovakia after Stefanik's tragic death," Carnogursky said.

The premier's speech was often interrupted by whistles, especially when he spoke about the federative setup of Czechoslovakia. He told journalists "people have the right to this."

Calls for the separation of the Slovak Republic from the Czech Republic (the two republics make up the Czechoslovak Federation) can often be heard in Slovakia of late.

Slovak Government Session Described

LD0805082491 Bratislavi Domestic Service in Slovak 1630 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Today, as every Tuesday, the Slovak Government, in its new composition, held a session. There was also the usual briefing immediately after the session. Our collegue Michal Tvarozek has come to our studio with more information:

[Tvarozek] At the beginning of the briefing, Prime Minister Jan Carnogursky characterized the atmosphere of the 49th session of the Slovak Government as businesslike and working. Obviously such an atmosphere was necessary, because today's agenda had more than 20 items out of which one only was postponed for members of the government to be able to familiarize themselves better with this document.

During the session, as the Slovak prime minister said, an attempt was made to outline a program for the future, to map out specific problems and to propose effective measures. Thus, for example, Minister [of Finance] Kovac was asked to find out what financial means there are for the new programs. Minister [of Trade and Tourism] Chren is to examine what possible consequences there would be if tourism [formalities] with Poland was relaxed, and two other ministers, Tirpak and Oberhauser, are preparing a document on the basis of which the fate of the Gabcikovo-nagymaros will be decided.

Then journalists focused their questions on the present political situation. I am going to lany [meeting on 10 May] determined to insist on a state treaty, the prime minister said, on the account of the forthcoming meeting of representatives of political parties with President Vaclav Havel, the aim of which will be to look again for

a common stand on the form of adopting constitutions. It is a pity that opposition parties will not be represented there, he said.

He also gave his opinion on views that the problem of republics' powers would have to be reopened and reexamined. The division of powers has been solved at least to the adoption of new constitutions, Jan Carnogursky said, and if then anything is discussed or changed, then only for the benefit of republics, he added.

Replying to a question about yesterday's strikes, he noted that he appreciates those who have understood the political and economic situation and kept cool heads. Thus he was also glad that the general strike did not take place.

At the end, Prime Minister Jan Carnogursky said that the new reconstructed government would submit soon its up-dated government policy statement to the the Slovak National Council.

Then, for the first time in their new posts, new Deputy Prime Ministers Martin Porubjak and Anton Vavro answered questions together with the newly appointed Ministers Jozef Butora, Jozef Krsek, and Pavol Demes.

Petras on Arms Industry Conversion Difficulties

LD0705221891 Prague CTK in English 1627 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Bratislava May 7 (CTK)—"The arms industry conversion cannot be solved in two or three years. Until then our arms industry enterprises will collapse. We need an immediate solution", Slovak Deputy Minister of Economics Stefan Petras told CTK here today.

Referring to the offered U.S. assistance to the process of arms industry conversion in Slovakia in the form of consultations with American experts, Petras said Slovakia needs immediate financial participation of foreign capital in projects submitted these days by Slovak enterprises, which are to be discussed by the Federal Government.

The issues of the conversion were also dealt with during last week's visit of Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier to Slovakia.

More than 80,000 people work in the Slovak arms industry enterprises. They also produce the T72 tanks against the exports of which the U.S Administration protested in an official note yesterday. The protest was handed to Czechoslovak Deputy Foreign Minister Martin Palous by U.S. Ambassador to Czechoslovakia Shirley Temple Black in Prague.

Reportage on Dienstbier Visit to France

WA0805121891

For reportage on the visit by Jiri Dienstbier, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to France, including reports on his talks with top officials, see the France and International Affairs sections of the 7 May West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Reportage on Calfa's Visit to Israel

WA0705141791

For reportage on the visit by Prime Minister Marian Calfa to Israel, see the Israel section of the 6 May Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Jeszenszky Optimistic on Ties with USSR

LD0705224291 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1630 GMT 7 May 91

[Interview with Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky by Joszef Laszlo; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Laszlo] You will be visiting Moscow soon, and I think you will be talking about the preparations of some very important treaties. The Soviet Union has already signed a treaty with Romania, which the other former socialist countries seem to reject, on the basis that their sovereignty should not be restricted. When you start your negotiations in Moscow, from what basis are you proceeding?

[Jeszenszky] I think it is not only the Hungarian Government that is not interested in a treaty that would restrict its sovereignty; the Soviet Government does not wish to have such a treaty, either. Here the question in dispute is only wording, and since this is, so it can be diverted.

This Moscow trip of mine will not only be in connection with the basic treaty, this is in fact only one item in a very broad program. I would not even say that the success of this trip will depend on how far we progress with this treaty, or when we can sign it. We repeatedly stressed that it is not the time of the signing that is really important but the substance, the quality of the treaty. I think that even if there are disputes in this wording, the main parts of the treaty can be regarded as ready, and a high-level meeting would be very suitable for dispelling certain doubts or disputes.

With the departure of the Soviet troops from Hungary, not only has the sovereignty of the country becomes complete in every sense but the Hungarian-Soviet relations have entered a new phase. [passage omitted]

[Laszlo] In your view, is there no danger of the Soviet Union trying to so-called Finlandize Eastern Europe? Trying to force a status on these countries which in some ways keeps them in a dependent position?

[Jeszenszky] Finlandization has been an expression in frequent use for quite a while now, I consider it a bit unfair, because looking at 50 years of relations of the Finns with the Soviet Union, I think we should congratulate the Finns, rather than use terms which some interpret as uncomplimentary. [passage omitted on Finn-Soviet relations]

If we say that Hungarian-Soviet relations would consider the present day Soviet-Finnish relations as an example, it would not be a bad model.

Since I referred to it already, I am convinced that the Soviet leadership, the decisive circles there, are aiming to have real security on their western borders and that even those soviet circles that are more anxious than necessary should not be able to say that the changes of the past years have made the western borders of the Soviet Union less safe, or undermined soviet security.

Thus we, and not only we but the NATO countries, also respect and understand this Soviet position and are ready to meet it. So there is no such Finlandization in the wrong sense that would endanger Hungary.

[Laszlo] Are you now visiting the Soviet Union or will you visit Russia as well?

[Jeszenszky] I very much hope I will have the opportunity to meet personalities of the Russian Federation, the Russian Republic, in foreign policy and perhaps other areas as well. Either during this trip or in the near future, with representatives of other republics as well, there as well as in Budapest.

[Laszlo] The nearest to Hungary is the Ukraine, will you go to Kiev to talk to the leaders there? The Ukrainian leaders?

[Jeszenszky] A Ukrainian-Hungarian draft treaty is ready and I will be signing this very shortly; when this willl take place is only a question of timescale. If this can be combined with the Moscow discussions, I should be glad because it would gain time, but I feel that Ukrainian-Hungarian relations are important enough to carry this forward not just with one discussion, one signature. [passage omitted]

[Laszlo] In your view, what is needed for the Soviet-Hungarian, Russian-Hungarian relations to be called friendly?

[Jeszenszky] I think the best guarantee for this is if the internal situation of the two countries is becoming similar, in their political structure, the spread of democracy in the Soviet Union, and economically as well. That both countries should be progressing toward market economy. This is obviously much more difficult in the Soviet Union than in Hungary, and will also take much longer. But if in terms of basic principles and aims the Soviet Union also sets out on this road, then this will provide a very good basis for relations to be really friendly. [passage omitted]

Becauase a large part of the Soviet Union is in Europe, and in the political sense also the Soviet Union wishes to come closer to Europe, I think this is also a very important precondition for this new kind of relations, and also if the Soviet Union becomes a partner in more and more European international institutions, for example where we already are members. [passage omitted] This could become a very important factor: to have such relations as the Hungarian leadership, and I believe the Soviet leadership also, sincerely desire.

Ambassador Pop on Romanian Parliamentary Visit

AU0705150091 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 4 May 91 p 2

[Nandor Stossel report: "One Has To Respect the Partner's Scientific Arsenal—Romania's Ambassador Comments on Historians' Meeting and Manescu's Visit"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] We asked Simion Pop, Romania's Ambassador to Budapest, to comment on the recent visit to Budapest of Romania's parliamentary foreign affairs committee. Pop told us: "I am not one of those people who immediately glorifies political visits. Therefore, it would be too early to evaluate the importance of this visit after only a few days. Nevertheless, the visit of the Romanian parliamentary foreign affairs committee, led by committee chairman Corneliu Manescu, was rather important from several points of view. Following the abolition of totalitarian communist regimes in our two countries, this was the first official Romanian delegation charged with establishing relations between our two parliaments. Naturally, the Hungarian media and Hungarian officials were quick to notice the high-level importance of the delegation. In particular they noticed the broad democratic system through which the members of the delegation were selected—indeed, political representation was optimal (four of the six members represented Romania's most important opposition groups.) In addition to the negotiations conducted with a similar Hungarian parliamentary delegation led by Gyula Horn, the Budapest agenda of these excellent negotiating partners included some important introductions and receptions. As far as I could tell, the broad negotiations held with Speaker of the Parliament Gyorgy Szabad and Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky, and the reception organized by President Arpad Goncz all seemed concrete, sincere, relaxed, and rather promising. The mere fact that these levels of Hungarian leadership were able to receive direct information on the viewpoints and standpoints of Romania's most important parliamentary political forces is an achievement in itself. One of the points on which the two sides agreed was an agreement that institutionalizes regular meetings between the two parliaments. The negotiations had another important aim: The whole problematic area of Romanian-Hungarian relations was analyzed, and relevant viewpoints were expressed. The next step will follow—that of joint activities. A joint committee of experts from the two parliaments will study new concepts which will form the basis for a treaty of cooperation and good-neighborly relations between Romania and Hungary. Without being over-enthusiastic, we can safely say that we are on the right track.

Foreign Committee Chairman on Talks With Romania

AU0805132991 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 29 Apr 91 p 2

[Interview with Gyula Horn, chairman of the Hungarian Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee, by Tibor Eszes; place and date not given: "Horn on Talks with Romania"—first paragraph is NEPSZABADSAG introduction]

[Text] On their return to Bucharest, members of the Romanian parliamentary delegation commented favorably on their Budapest talks by stating that they managed to assess much better the questions on the agenda, which was important for them, so that, as delegates, they could contribute to their solution. The opinion of Petru Burca, representative of the Romanian National Unity Party, differed somewhat from this positive reaction. According to him, Gyula Horn set up demands regarding the shaping of Hungarian-Romanian relations, which they would reciprocate. We asked Gyula Horn about his opinion on this matter.

[Horn] I find Mr. Burca's statement a little strange, because it was precisely he who said that we should separate bilateral interstate relations from the problems of the Hungarian minority living in Romania. To which my answer was that it was simply impossible.

[Eszes] What are your views on the first inter-parliamentary talks since the December 1989 turning point?

[Horn] They were very good. [President] Arpad Goncz and [Chairman of the Parliament] Gyorgy Szabad also stated that they agreed with what our committee had said: We do not have territorial claims. At the same time, we also had to discuss many specific questions, namely the case of the general consulate in Kolozsvar [Cluj], passenger traffic, visits to relatives, cultural relations, and obstacles to the exchange of publications; these issues have been stagnating for 12-18 months, and we have even taken a step back.

[Eszes] The Romanian delegation did not seem to be receptive to these specific issues during the negotiations, saying that they fell within the competency of its government.

[Horn] I see this slightly differently. The two foreign committees together supported the idea of a basic agreement that lays down the principles of cooperation, and the Hungarian side will prepare the draft text. It is very important, that—as promised by Chairman of the Committee Corneliu Manescu—the Romanian parliament be informed about the suggestions made here. We agreed that the two committees will hold a working session in Bucharest soon.

[Eszes] The atmosphere of the negotiations heated up when some Hungarian delegates offered Hungary's help in Romania's attempt to join Europe.

[Horn] Yes, there were such statements, but I think the Romanian side misunderstood them. The point in question was that we could support Romania's efforts in these questions by using our advantage of being Council of Europe members, provided that the Romanians fulfill the democratic criteria for admission.

State Secretary Katona on Relations With Romania

AU0705090991 Budapest MTI in English 1215 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Budapest, 6 May (MTI)—Hungary wants to contribute to easing Romania's international isolation, said Tamas Katona, Hungarian secretary of state of the Foreign Ministry, in the course of his meeting with Romanian Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase, which took place in Prague on April 26, at the security policy conference.

The secretary of state, in an interview carried in the May 6 issue of the daily MAGYAR HIRLAP, said that Prime Minister Jozsef Antall would shortly be addressing a letter to Romanian President Iliescu. The prime minister states that Hungary is interested in Romanian-Hungarian cooperation, and would like this to be extended to social, political, economic, and cultural life as a whole. Also in the letter, the prime minister will be stressing that it is in the Romanian interest as well for the Hungarian consulate in Cluj to be set up, as the Hungarian side has specified that the consulate's key task is to assist trade and economic relations in market economy conditions. "We would very much welcome Romanian consulates in Hungary, and are ready to ensure the conditions for their operation."

Katona also said that Hungarian diplomacy is endeavouring to link Romania up with the work of the Pentagonale specialized committees. Hungary is not at all averse to accepting a greater role in the Danube Committee, as encouraged by Romania.

Hungary-Russia Trading House Opened

LD0705195191 Budapest MTI in English 1446 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Budapest, May 7 (MTI)—A Hungarian-Russian trading house, called Hungarian-Russian Trade, Organizing and Service Co., Ltd.—Roven for short—was set up in Budapest on Tuesday. The signing of the founding document was also attended by the Russian deputy minister of international economic relations, V.A. Mangaziyev.

Roven, which has a 51 per cent Russian majority stake, expects to have a turnover of 100 million forints and no deficit this year. It will export consumer goods and high-tech to Russia and other Soviet republiics, and import raw and basic materials from there. It also intends to promote the joint third marketing of Hungarian and Russian companies.

Roven was set up with active support from the Russian Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, as the initial stage of the central programme aimed at developing Russian foreign trade by setting up trading houses.

Goncz Visits Switzerland, Germany

WA0805182791

For reportage on the visit by President Arpad Goncz to Switzerland, including his visit to the European office of the United Nations, and Germany see the Switzerland section of the 8 May West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Antall Speaks on WWII Anniversary

LD0705161491 Budapest MTI in English 1024 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Budapest, May 7 (MTI)—To mark the forthcoming anniversary of the end of the Second World War, Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall delivered a brief commemorative speech at the parliament's plenary session on Tuesday. The prime minister emphasized that the anniversary creates an opportunity for parliament to declare that it has broken with both extreme right-wing and left-wing ideas forever.

Speaker Gyorgy Szabad commemorated the first anniversary of the formation of the new parliament. Assessing the work done over the past year, the speaker pointed out that parliament has adopted and amended over 90 laws and has passed some 80 resolutions.

7 May Parliament Session Reviewed

LD0805053191 Budapest MTI in English 1845 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Budapest, May 7 (MTI)—The Tuesday plenary session of the Hungarian parliament was attended by Peter Cortierier, secretary-general of the North Atlantic Assembly [as received], currently on an official visit to Hungary at the invitation of the Hungarian parliament.

At the session, Tamas Katona state secretary of the Hungarian Foreign Ministry withdrew the government's request for the preliminary authorization of parliament to sign an 'open skies' agreement with Romania. The withdrawal of the request was due to a decision of the constitutional committee, summoned during the break of the session, according to which the conclusion of the inter-governmental agreement should not require the authorization of parliament.

In an interpolation, MP of the Alliance of Free Democrats (AFD) Gyorgy Gado protested against anti-minority and anti-Semitic writings published recently in the periodicals SZENT KORONA (HOLY CROWN) and HUNNIA. Gado asked whether the public prosecutor would start legal proceedings in cases of incitement of hatred against communities.

In his answer, deputy public prosecutor Sandor Nyiri gave an account of the investigation which has been underway since September into the periodical SZENT KORONA for similar breaches of law. He said the public

prosecutor had already been informed of the case mentioned by Gado and a fact-finding mission had been started. Should the infringement be proved, the periodicals are to be confiscated.

The discussion in its first reading of the bill on the settlement of ownership relations with regard to former church properties was also begun at the session.

State secretary of the Ministry of Justice Tamas Isepy said the reasonable way of thinking of the Hungarian society was proved in the results of a poll according to which 91 percent of the adult population thought that churches should regain their property but that no full reprivatization should be carried out.

The Tuesday session of parliament ended in the evening hours.

Assembly Debates Television Dispute

LD0705154691 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0838 GMT 7 May 91

[Remarks by National Assembly Deputy Ferenc Torok, Alliance of Free Democrats, and Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall, at the Hungarian National Assembly session in Budapest—live]

[Excerpts] [Torok] Esteemed House, dear fellow deputies: I believe that I have asked to speak before the agenda in an extraordinary matter that affects many people. I could give my contribution the title: Transmission Fault. The subject at hand is the transmission—or non-transmission—of the channel TV2. Inside the building, the new, full-day program of TV2 is going on, of which nothing can be seen by the viewers outside, to whom the program was promised months ago when the television fee was raised.

The National Assembly's Cultural committee obligated Television to create and operate two complete public service channels. Already in January of this year, Hungarian Television indicated the expected financial deficit to the Ministry of Finance and Government. Earlier, and especially since the budget debate [at the end of last year, when TV president predicted dire consequences if more funding was not allocated for Hungarian Television], we have viewed with astonishment the events surrounding television.

In the course of assessing the financial situation of television, Mr. President [of television] Elemer Hankiss said the following at the Interest Coordinating Council on 4 January and at the session of the television workers' trade union on 25 February: In my opinion, we did not get the extra two to three billion forints, not because we did not carry out the system change, but because we initiated a transformation of a kind with which certain political forces did not agree. These forces are interested in nothing other than in two- three political programs. He then said: If we had been politically obedient, there would have been a good chance for a more normal budget to be adopted. They demanded the removal of noncommunist leaders from Television; it arose as a demand that in our programs we should behave ourselves better politically; it arose that in our programs we should favor certain political forces, and since I did not accept this, we lost the money.

These are tough words from a president who, at the proposal of Mr Prime Minister, was appointed by the president of the Republic for a new, independent, directing role.

I nonetheless nurtured illusions. I trusted that new leaders would be given the opportunity to engage in television broadcasting free of party influence. The dummy-broadcast [vakadas] of yesterday and this morning, the now-continuing (?cheap reasoning) that is intensifying the internal political scandal and which presents it as a market conflict between two budgetary organs, dispels all of my illusions. It is a question, here, of conscious strategy.

I personally take amiss the disregarding of the work of the creative collective worthy of a better fate, which deprives several million television viewers of a valuable program of public service television, whose mission, in the the deteriorating economic situation, would be to serve the general well-being, culture, and knowledge of the people.

When there is only television which remains a source of entertainment, culture, and learning for a large proportion of the population, it is an unpardonable crime that the government adopts an attitude of passive rejection—which in the light of the above is only passive in appearance, which otherwise is very direct, and painfully reminds us of the former steely means.

After this, I ask my esteemed fellow deputies, and I ask the government, to exercise sober reasoning, to examine their consciences, regarding whether what is happening is right. Elevating ourselves above party viewpoints, isn't it necessary to effect urgent measures? Thank you for listening to me. [passage omitted]

[Chairman Szabad] Prime Minister Jozsef Antall has asked to speak.

[Antall] Hungarian Television functions on a budget. The budget was adopted by the National Assembly. Television must function on the basis of the budget. As for the government, and I believe doubt was cast a week ago on the government's supervisory jurisdiction, I think that the government can do nothing other than to have Television operate on the basis of the adopted budget. As for the words quoted from Elemer Hankiss, Mr President, this constitutes a puzzle—I will be grateful if he is asked what political forces he was thinking of. Thank you. [applause]

TV2 Director Resigns

LD0705155291 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1400 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Tamas Vitray, director of TV2, has resigned. The background to the affair is that the Hungarian Transmission Enterprise, citing financial reasons, has been unwilling for the second day to transmit the new morning programs of TV2. Jozsef Orosz attended the press briefing in connection with this.

[Orosz] The justification Tamas Vitray gave for his resignation was that he was not willing to be director of phantom television, nor did the circumstances offer positive encouragement regarding the morning transmission of Television's Second Channel. Elemer Hankiss [president of Hungarian Television] supplemented the latter by saying that transmission on the Second Channel would begin tomorrow at the former program time, thus at 1630 hours [1430 GMT] in the afternoon, although as the Television president said, it would be the legal obligation of the Transmission Enterprise to transmit the program in the morning, too.

In the meantime, the director of TV1 offered to provide the opportunity for transmission of the invisible television, that is, the "Day-Break" program, in the morning hours on his own channel. Judit Kothy, a leading staff-member of the Second Channel which is now without a director, handed over an ultimatum to Elemer Hankiss, that if the president did not provide a guarantee within 24 hours for the working conditions and futures of the remaining 200-plus people employed on the Second channel, then the broadcast would not begin tomorrow. Elemer Hankiss rejected this, saying that up to now they had done their utmost in the interest of Television's workers. Elemer Hankiss said that parliament had decided that there should be two public service television channels in Hungary, and he at the time had trusted in political support. As the indications show, nothing has come of this.

Socialists' Proposals for Six-Party Talks

LD0705215291 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1600 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] The Hungarian Socialist Party has worked out a proposal for the agenda of the six-party talks and submitted this to the rest of the parliamentary parties and to the head of state. The party has proposed that the following subjects be put on the agenda of the talks: transformation of the economy, protection of the democratic system of institution, and the question of evaluation of the shared past. Within this framework, the socialists propose as main issues for debate privatization, handling of inflation, the situation of the agrarian branch, and social problems. They propose, moreover, to discuss the development of interest protection processes, guarantees for the operation of self-government, examination of the consequences of the Alliance of Free Democrats-Democratic Forum pact, and joint measures to be taken against extreme anti-constitutional forces.

The Socialist Party would like to hold the six-party talks in public.

Cabinet Discusses Contents of Treaty With Germany

LD0805090391 Warsaw PAP in English 2200 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Warsaw, May 7—The Council of Ministers chaired by Premier Jan Krzysztof Bielecki heard here today a report of Secretary of State in the Foreign Ministry Jerzy Makarczyk on the draft treaty on good neighbourliness and friendly cooperation between Poland and Germany and held a broad discussion on its contents.

The draft was submitted to the Foreign Ministry for further editorial work.

We would like the heads of both governments to sign the treaty in summer so that it can be ratified by the parliaments in autumn, government spokesman Andrzej Zarebski said after the cabinet meeting.

He also pointed to the great significance of the document for the Polish foreign policy and to the good atmoshpere of negotiations.

Also today the Council of Ministers discussed legal changes in state finances aimed to ensure greater efficiency of executing dues and to eliminate redundant regulations and gaps in them which result in losses for the state treasury. First of all, changes in the customs law are planned so as to adjust Polish regulations to GATT standards.

The government members also discussed a programme for restructuring state farms aimed at their greater efficiency and better use of land owned by the state. There are plans for setting up a state agency for rural property which would administer state farms and sell or lease them to individuals and firms. Agriculture and privatization ministers Adam Tanski and Janusz Lewandowski respectively are to work out concrete plans for legal solutions in this sphere.

Discussing bills on pensions for employees of the interior and defence ministries, the Council of Ministers decided that there should be one draft worked out reckoning with major regulations of the general law on pensions.

Labour Minister Michal Boni said during a break in the cabinet debates that soldiers and policemen's pensions are much higher than benefits for employees in other sectors, but added that the former should be adjusted to the capacities of the state budget which finances them.

Committee Protests Over Lithuanian Deserter

LD0705172991 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1200 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] The presidium of the National Citizens' Committee has published a declaration strongly protesting against the handing over of the Lithuanian deserter Arunas Vasiljevas by the Polish border guard to the Soviet military authorities.

The declaration stresses that this act contravenes binding international agreements and Polish Government declarations against the deportation of Lithuanian citizens. In the declaration, which was signed by Wieslaw Chrzanowski, Stefan Kurowski, Zdzislaw Najder, Jan Olszewski, Zbigniew Romaszewski, Jerzy Stepien, and Wojciech Wlodarczyk, the committee's presidium demands a public explanation by government representatives of how our military sovereignty came to be violated by our own Polish organizations.

'Experts' Assess Cost of Soviet Troops' Stay

LD0705231191 Warsaw PAP in English 1833 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Warsaw, May 7—Polish and Soviet experts are completing their work on the methods of assessing the value of objects in Poland constructed or rented by the Soviet Army, General Zdzislaw Ostrowski told PAP today and added they were also estimating the losses Poland suffered as a result of the Soviet units' presence in this country.

Ostrowski, a governmental representative who deals with the stationing of the Soviet Army in Poland, said that the next round of negotiations on the transit via Poland of the Soviet soldiers and their withdrawal from this country was scheduled to take place in Moscow this May 14-15.

Minister Rules Out Exposing Ex-Security Agents

LD0705210791 Warsaw PAP in English 1520 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Szczecin, May 7—Poland's Interior Minister Henryk Majewski told a press conference here today that any plans of exposing agents of the former security service, secret service or militia were out of the question. "This is a thing that no country would do," he said.

"Murder and treason are the only instances in which the secrecy of such information can be violated. It lies in the strategic interest of the state that such secrets are never disclosed," Majewski added.

The minister also said that he will not allow any attempts at pre-election witch hunting or decommunization to take place in his ministry and pledged to do his best to push through the Parliament a pension bill which would preserve the hitherto privileges enjoyed by policemen, firemen and border guards.

Demoratic Union Leader on Congress, Elections

PM0805093191 Lodz GLOS PORANNY in Polish 26 Apr 91 pp 1, 8-9

[Interview with Sejm Deputy J. M. Rokita, chairman of the Democratic Union Krakow Founding Committee, by Henryk Sroczynski; place and date not given: "We Are Counting on Nonparty Members]

[Text] [Sroczynski] What kind of obstacles have you had to surmount before the Democratic Union's [UD] unification congress scheduled for 11-12 May?

[Rokita] There were two kinds of problems associated with the setting up of the UD. The first involved organizational matters, whereas the second concerned the modeling of the ideological and program profile of the whole group.

[Sroczynski] What was the main difficulty with organizational matters?

[Rokita] The fundamental problem resulted from the fact that the UD was formed after the presidential election as an alliance between three different vertical structures: the already operating Citizens' Movement for Democratic Action [ROAD], the Forum of the Democratic Right [FPD], and Tadeusz Mazowiecki's election committees, which were set up during the presidential election itself. Each of these structures strove to preserve its own separate identity, which was quite normal in the circumstances.

[Sroczynski] As a consequence of all this, will the FPD and ROAD officially leave the political parties' register?

[Rokita] We are expecting this to happen.

[Sroczynski] Will the UD enter into any kind of alliance prior to the approaching election?

[Rokita] That will remain an altogether open question.

[Sroczynski] It is claimed that you are close to the Gdansk liberals...

[Rokita] We favor the vision of Poland proposed by the Gdansk liberals. This, however, by no means automatically implies that we will necessarily enter into an election alliance with the Liberal Democratic Congress. It is simply too early for conjectures on this subject. Incidentally, let me tell you that I do allow for the eventual creation of a network of initiative groups sympathetic to UD policy; these would be not only political groups, but also structures with a more social dimension: groups, circles, associations, and so on. I would like to see the creation of a kind of nonparty, apolitical zone around the UD —which in itself will be a uniform political organization—a zone to gather together all those people who do not want to belong to any political parties, but nevertheless need to express their intention to support and disseminate our vision for Poland.

[Sroczynski] Everyone strives to secure the support of the Solidarity trade union these days. Would the UD be interested in representing workers' interests, too?

[Rokita] In my view, representation of the economic interests of the social groups comprising waged employees is the responsibility of the nonpolitical organizations created specifically for that purpose; that is, trade unions. As for the UD, while we admit to a very far-reaching community of interests that involves, among other things, sharing a press publication with Solidarity and maintaining a very close contact with the union, we do not intend to re-create some great representation of Solidarity-related groups or to cite Solidarity principles as our own election slogan. We want to stand under our own political flag and carry our own political program, which will coincide in many points with the Solidarity program but could also turn out to diverge from it on certain issues.

[Sroczynski] The corporate body of the citizens' committees is being torn apart today. Will the UD also try to draw some of the citizens' committees over to its own side?

[Rokita] I would not say that we are trying to draw them to our side. Personally, I hold a rather skeptical view of the future of the citizens' committees. I believe that, unfortunately, their political formula, which I used to regard as very close to my own convictions and which, as it seemed to me at one time, could contribute to the creation of a highly interesting model of political life in Poland, has by now ceased to play any greater role in political affairs as a result of the split within Solidarity and the latter's very rapid politicization. On the other hand, we are sympathetic to the trend in the citizens' committees that sets out to protect them against becoming subordinate to any political power; or, in other words, to ensure that they remain institutions of a local nature, concerning themselves with local matters and participating in the handling of self-government issues. This is the vision of the citizens' committees' brief that is implemented in practical terms by the Krakow region, which is where I am based. Regarding the National Citizens' Committee, it very obviously ceased to discharge its primary function as a citizens' committee and openly joined the Center Accord, forming a coalition with the latter.

[Sroczynski] Some say that the UD is in opposition to the government. But you frequently offer firm support to J.K. Bielecki's cabinet. Perhaps the UD is a progovernment party?

[Rokita] It seems to me that we have a somehow ambivalent attitude toward this government. On the one hand we want to support all efforts to lead the country consistently toward the Common Market, and indeed we are more often found defending the policy of J.K. Bielecki's cabinet before the Parliament than the Center Accord, who, after all, were joint creators of the present government. On the other hand, you must take into account the fact that this government was not formed by the UD... In my opinion, you cannot avoid having reservations about a situation where, given Poland's current political map, the present cabinet—in contrast to the previous one—does not constitute the central command and decisionmaking headquarters regarding the majority of current political questions. After the change of government, the dividing lines between the areas of competence within the responsibility of the Belweder, the office in the Belweder, the government, and the

Center Accord political party became blurred. This is another issue on which we criticize, and probably will continue to criticize, the present government. Consequently, it is difficult to prejudge our position as either pro-government or antigovernment.

[Sroczynski] Do you believe that the Belweder will find itself under fire during the election campaign?

[Rokita] Well, you know... I believe that the institution of president of the Polish Republic, chosen in a general election and invested with a public mandate to discharge his office, should remain above and beyond the reach of the parliamentary election campaign. It would be a very bad thing if the president or his officials became involved in political election battles in the approaching parliamentary election. Considering that our public interpretation of the nature of his office is that the president constitutes a mediating factor between individual parties and particular power centers, thus representing a contributory factor in achieving stability in the state, I very much hope that we never have a situation where the president himself, or members of his office, could become active agents in the the preelection struggle. It would be better for the state if we could avoid it.

[Sroczynski] All the same, you have reservations about the political composition of the presidential chancellery team...

[Rokita] That is not where the problem is. The composition of the president's chancellery is determined by the president himself, and it is hardly proper to interfere with his authority in this area. The problem lies elsewhere: At times you can form the impression that the president's chancellery is being used by the Center Accord to augment the latter's political influence in the country. We certainly criticize this aspect of Center Accord's activity, but we do not in any way attempt to question the president's free hand in choosing the personal composition of the team in his office.

[Sroczynski] Who will be the UD's main rival in the election campaign?

[Rokita] This depends on the configuration of the political scene prior to the election. If it turns out in the course of the campaign that forces that are firmly opposed to pro-capitalist and pro-free market policy of economic reform pursued by the state employ tough tactics in the election struggle, then I would expect the main political contest to take place on that particular platform. After all, these are issues that will ultimately decide the country's future. In this connection I view Alfred Miodowicz's latest comments with the utmost concern. He spoke about Polish laws and state institutions with obvious disrespect. He also expressed his contempt for the laws passed by the Sejm and stated publicly that he was in no way prepared to abide by them. I would say that if a political front representing these attitudes is formed in this campaign, that front will most definitely constitute our main rival in the election.

[Sroczynski] We already know the general outlines of the electoral law. In your opinion, how will the political parties organize their positions in readiness for the election contest?

[Rokita] We know the broad outlines of the electoral law, but the configuration of the preelection political scene is still an unknown factor. For example, we do not know how to interpret the declaration announced by the three peasant groups: Does it anticipate the formation of one large, consolidated peasant movement? We do not know what to think of the reports reaching us from many different parts of the country on the popular appeal of [Tyminski's] Party-"X". We have no way of predicting whether it will eventually form a significant component of the Polish political scene or whether its impact will prove only ephemeral. At the moment we can be certain of just one thing; namely that the election contest will involve two large blocs that trace their origins to the Solidarity movement: the recently formed Center Coalition and, on the other side, the united Democratic Union. At the moment it remains an open question whether these two forces will be able to fight each other over the loftiest ideological principles or whether they will be forced to approach each other closely again in the face of a joint threat, to prevent power from slipping away from the hands of the post-Solidarity camp.

[Sroczynski] Do you believe that the current line of the transformations now under way in our country could be placed in real danger?

[Rokita] I believe that such a danger is real enough. I came to this conclusion after taking into account certain comments that I mentioned earlier, as well as statements issues by Party-"X" activists in many different parts of the country. I have considerable confidence in the Polish public, and I believe that the highly demagogic political proposals that are currently being proposed and, on the other hand, the extremely tempting—for some—projects to wipe out all the work that we did over the past two years and begin a reconstruction of the economy according to some other, unspecified blueprint will be firmly rejected by the majority of public opinion. Otherwise, the Polish state could be put in peril.

[Sroczynski] Who will direct the work of the UD election committee?

[Rokita] Several people have already been very active in the UD's preliminary election work, but I cannot yet answer the question of who will be appointed head of the election team. The UD congress can be expected to make the final decisions in this matter. In my private opinion, Jacek Kuron makes a most likely candidate here.

Forum Chairman on Merger With Democratic Union

AU0805080891 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 2-3 May 91 p 2

[Interview with Aleksander Hall, chairman of the Forum of the Democratic Right, by Ewa Szemplinska; place and date not given: "An Ideological Minimum"]

[Excerpts] [Szemplinska] There is no doubt that the Democratic Union will hold a merger congress (11-12 May). The draft statute proposes individual, "union" membership, which might seem to be a logical move from the point of view of a single party, but in light of the diverse political options that the union encompasses, it seems pertinent to ask: Is the attempt to reconcile these various options ignoring the facts, a belief in the strength of "those who are strong through unity," or is it the product of the divisions and feelings of resentment that were a legacy of the presidential election campaign? Further, is a small grouping like the Forum of the Democratic Right [FPD] afraid that it will fade away within the union and lose its identity?

[Hall] A condition for uniting is that we can negotiate a program and an ideological minimum that we would find acceptable. I think that this common minimum must draw on Christian values and contain a clear expression of support for the creation of a free market economy and a vision of a state whose functions are limited, limited, above all, to upholding the law and civil liberties and to the pursuit of foreign, defense, and fiscal policies. In addition, I would like to point out that the statute not only provides for individual membership, but also envisages the possibility of retaining a factional identity, that is, of developing certain programmatic points that are not incompatible with the common program, but are identified with a given grouping. The FPD wants to be clearly seen as being on the right wing of the union, and that will be reflected in the way in which we formulate our version of the program—we will invite both "pure unionists" and members of the Citizens Movement-Democratic Action [ROAD] to participate in our faction—and we are also thinking about maintaining the Forum as a network of clubs and associations. Therefore, we are not afraid of losing our identity, but we think that the chances the union has are derived from the diversity of the forces that constitute it and from the ability to articulate a variety of options. [passage omitted]

[Szemplinska] Let us return to the subject of the FPD and the union. The union's program must, by the very nature of things, be a compromise between the different tendencies within the FPD, ROAD, and the union itself, which is not a uniform group in terms of program and ideology, but an association of various groups that supported Tadeusz Mazowiecki in the presidential election campaign. ROAD is also not a uniform formation (although its opponents would like to see it solely as a post-Workers Defense Committee group). It too came into existence as an electoral bloc and not as the result of a common program. (Besides, the departure of Zbigniew Bujak's group, which is heading toward social democracy, is an example of further divisions). That being the state of affairs, are you afraid that a program that is aimed at a variety of groups and permits various options will simply be nebulous and insufficiently concrete?

[Hall] I am afraid that that may happen, but, for example, I consider Zbigniew Bujak's departure to be a healthy phenomenon and something that I do not regret, because the situation is becoming clearer, and we are moving closer to a real consensus. It must be constantly borne in mind that we have a fledgling political scene that is not fully developed. It was temporarily defined by the presidential election campaign, and there were sharp differences that stemmed from different political styles. I think, however, that in the long term political parties will develop normally, that is to say, they will be based on distinct ideological and programmatic positions. It is true that in this sense the union has yet to acquire that kind of final form, but it is going through the same stage as all the other emergent groups. One can expect certain groups to join it and other groups to find their own path and a distinct identity of their own. For the time being, at the stage at which we find ourselves, it seems to me to be useful to have a common platform that is based on a general program along with the opportunity to create factions, that is, to articulate options of one's own. This is because we know that despite every attempt to bring the "right" and "left" wings closer together, differences will remain on such issues as relations between the church and the state, the state and the citizen, state interventionism, the state's involvement in economic processes, and so on. Autonomy for groups that retain a common ideological minimum and agree on pragmatic program issues at a basic level, but also have the right to preserve their own identity , gives those groupings a chance to exist and to remain on the political scene. As for the direction in which the union will evolve, that is something that we will know in due course.

OPZZ Leader, IMF Official Discuss Economy

LD0805051891 Warsaw PAP in English 1837 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Warsaw, May 7—At a meeting with deputy managing director of the International Monetary Fund Richard Erb today, leader of the All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions OPZZ Alfred Miodowicz pointed to the need to alter the economic policy of this country.

Speaking on behalf of his organization, Miodowicz added that Poland lacked a coherent programme of social security and opined that that might lead to society refusing to make any further sacrifices for the currently implemented programme of economic reforms.

Iliescu Receives Opposition Party Leaders

AU0605194191 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1855 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 6/5/1991—As part of contacts with political parties, President Ion Iliescu is taking part in a meeting at the Cotroceni Palace with the delegation of the Convention for Democracy Parties.

"The insignificant reshuffle of the government" as well as "the political mistakes" of the executive were the questions approached on the opening of the meeting by Radu Campeanu, president of the National Liberal Party, and Sergiu Cunescu, president of the Social Democratic Party of Romania.

The delegations of the convention include Corneliu Coposu and Ion Diaconescu for the Christian and Democratic National Peasant Party, Sergiu Cunescu and Constantin Avramescu for the Social Democratic Party of Romania, Geza Domokos and Geza Szocs for the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania, Radu Campeanu, I.V. Sandulescu and Nae Bedros for the National Liberal Party, Adrian Pantazescu and Otto Weber for the Romanian Ecologist Party.

Opposition Leaders, Iliescu on 6 May Meeting

AU0705132691 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1045 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/5/1991—After the interview Romania's President Ion Iliescu had Monday, 6 May, at Cotroceni Palace, with leaders of the parties members of the convention for democracy, a "ROMPRES" reporter was told:

Corneliu Coposu, chairman of the Christian-Democratic National Peasant Party: We discussed with Mr. Ion Iliescu and made him suggestions on the measures to take for stabilizing and normalizing the situation, related to a government reshuffle, to changing administrative structures up to the level of communes, so that the public opinion expecting a revival should be satisfied and Romania should acquire the credibility a stable government, trusted by the world, could bring.

Radu Campeanu, chairman of the National Liberal Party: The present home political situation was discussed, as well as the possibility of changing things at last, and of substantial, essential changes in the government. The president was open to dialogue.

Sergiu Cunescu, chairman of the Social-Democratic Party: The centerpiece of our stand was that election for local bodies should be speeded up. We made concrete proposals in this respect namely the stepping up of the elaboration of the law of administrative organization, which can also refer to modalities of organizing elections, the way it was with the old Romanian law. Until the elections, a new structure should be established by all political forces in consensus, that must be able to ensure the objectivity of the elections properly. It is only in this way that we shall be able to step up the future elections. It is necessary for electoral consultations to be held, as the sympathies of the electorate for the political trends have changed, we do not know to what extent, but they have changed.

Otto Weber, chairman of the Romanian Ecologist Party: The issue of a government reshuffle was approached. Mr. Ion Iliescu said he would discuss with the National Salvation Front what some of us have asked for, namely the nomination of a neutral prime minister. He said he wanted to think about it. In any case, he was very, very kind. Understood our opinions, said he would think of our proposals. It was established that the chairmen of the five parties in the convention would discuss with representatives of the National Salvation Front on this government reshuffle.

Domokos Geza, chairman of the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania: We asked the president to take steps, so that the picket in front of the Senate should not turn into an action similar with that of last year in the University Square. The second problem we raised was that of the implementation, ever stronger, as it seems,of the Romanian Intelligence Service in the social life. Considering the discussions in the Parliament on the scientific meeting held at Eger, Hungary, on 13-14 April, and which after the replay by the Romanian Television of a broadcast of the Hungarian Television, made people be excited, we asked the president, with his authority, to contribute to calming down the situation.

Ion Iliescu, Romania's president: I was asked to have this dialogue by the convention of the five parties, and it continues previous meetings, that asked for a discussion on the political situation of the country and ways of involving to a much greater extent representatives of several parties in the ruling of the political life. Therefore the dialogue was centered on possibly promoting government formulas with the participation of several parties, therefore the idea of a government of national union, which, as it resulted equally from the talks held today, needs negotiating, a larger dialogue with the majority party, with other parliamentary parties or groups. I agreed to take steps to facilitate such contacts for dialogues, for discussions, to see to what extent an acceptable formula is shaped, a formula that could be achieved.

The issue of the administrative organisation of Romania's territory was also tackled, and of ensuring local elections.

Not all the leaders of the parties present favored the participation in a coalition government. Sergiu Cunescu said he was not even interested in taking part in a governmental formula in the present situation.

Press Reactions to Recent Government Reshuffle

AU0705133491 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1011 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/5/1991—Bucharest publications continue to comment on the government reshuffle:

"VIITORUL ROMANESC": A government for the elections? (...) The new government may be considered, by its intentions, as going back to the formula of the provisional government before May 20, 1990. (...)

The government reshuffle probably solves many of the internal problems of that apparatus, relating to the functioning of that body. (...) If disagreements are expressed publicly, it will be for us all a sign that the Roman Government is firmly engaged on the path to democracy. If such disagreements are consumed inside, they will burn the very substance, the structure of the government and then we'll no longer know on what paths it is wandering and dragging us along.(...)

The invalidation of two of the candidates proposed by Premier Roman shows this is still a provisional government.(...)

"DREPTATEA": The reshuffle is a pretended substantive change—[word indistinct] renewal of the executive, when in fact it is a here enlargement of the staff list, a waste of money on newly invented offices. There is not as yet any law approved by parliament limiting the number of government members; therefore, the government may be reshuffled that is enlarged in any way the premier may choose (...)

The fault does not lie with worn out ministers it is a government crisis, a failure to implement the government's programme. We have therefore taken the wrong way.

"ADEVARUL": A government velvet crisis usually known by the name of reshuffle.(...) proposals for a government adjustment were rather baffling. Their criteria escaped all observers who were only able to exclude the most important of them: competence. (...)

Certain political reasons may have been more important than professional competence. But, speaking for the state apparatus as a whole, one question still arises: where, how, by whom and according to what criteria the "staff policy" is made?"

"TINERAMA": There was only one alternative left for the government: to hold out a hand to the opposition or to go ahead alone, as if riding a bicycle: pedalling as fast as possible to avoid a fall.

It is rather unlikely that the present government, who is expected to work miracles by merely cosmetic changes, will be successful....

Government Spokesman Holds News Conference

AU0705200091 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1740 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 7/5/1991—A supervisory department of the government has been set up subordinated directly to the prime minister, announced on Tuesday [7 May] Secretary of State Bogdan Baltazar, government's spokesman, at his weekly press conference.

Among its attributions are to check on the utilization of the state administration budget, credits and government subsidies, on the violation of laws and norms in force, as well as to prevent the creation of disbalances at a macroeconomic level.

In fulfilling its tasks the government supervisory department, whose head is Ion Horia Neamtu, Doctor in Science, resorts to experts in various areas of activity. The spokesman stressed it would affiliate to relevant international bodies.

In 1990 and in the first semester of the ongoing ear, the Romanian relevant bodies issued 4,392,451 passports solving 82 per cent of the total number of 4,787,781 applications by Romanian citizens, announced the spokesman of the Romanian Government, Secretary of State Bogdan Baltazar.

Most of the passports were issued in Bucharest (over 470,000) in Cluj, Timis, Bihor, Arad, Satu Mare, and Harghita counties.

As many as 137,848 applications for emigration by Romanian citizens were registered over the same period of whom 88,741 have already left Romania settling in various countries, he stressed. The other 49,807 have not received entry visas for the countries they want to emigrate to. As many as 3,705 repatriation applications of Romanian citizens who left the country and 529 of former Romanian citizens residing abroad have been registered.

The number of Romanian citizens asking to leave the country in the first months of this year is 80 per cent smaller than that registered in the first months last year, the spokesman said adding that most of those wishing to settle abroad are medium trained—only five per cent being highly trained. Most of them belong to the 35-45 year age bracket.

On May 7, 1991 59,862 unemployed were officially registered in Romania, the government's spokesman announced. He expressed his amazement in connection with the assertion made by the "Magyar Kossuth Radio" according to which a demonstration of protest would have been held in Iasi in support to the three million unemployed. That radio station, Mr. Baltazar said, omitted to specify where all those unemployed were.

On Tuesday Government's Spokesman Bogdan Baltazar rejected during his press conference the assertion

prompted in the May 4 issue of the "ROMANIA LIBERA" daily according to which the government would have sent two control commissions to that newspaper to check the prices and the way in which paper was used.

This assertion is a pure invention, the spokesman showed, specifying that only one commission was sent to that newspaper to check the way of that periodical's privatization and which has not concluded its activity yet.

An authorship bill will be completed by the Ministry of Culture in the month of may, Government Spokesman Bogdan Baltazar told the weekly news conference, adding that the bill takes into account all other national laws as well as the statutory provisions of the international organisations Romania is party to. Meanwhile a bill on the national heritage is being worked out by the same ministry.

Answering a question on the possible form a national unity government, the government's spokesman, Bogdan Baltazar showed that the Petre Roman government remained open to the participation in the government of other representatives than those of the National Salvation Front. As far as a national unity government is concerned, the government spokesman specified in his Tuesday press conference that the formation of any government should take into consideration the results of the May 20, 1990 general elections, that is the country's will expressed in those elections: "We cannot even think of a government without the participation of the National Salvation Front," he said, adding that talks on that item had started at the end of last year but they had been interrupted because of the opposition parties' oscillations. He did not exclude the continuation of talks on that subject, but he specified they should be held with the National Salvation Front first and foremost and by all the opposition parties in Parliament.

Dijmarescu on Importance of Economy Ministry

AU0805081991 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2150 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/5/1991—Motivating the creation, during the recent government session, of the new Ministry of the Economy and Finance, Mr. Eugen Dijmarescu, holder of the portfolio, stated to journalists during the Tuesday [7 May] press conference of the government's spokesman, Mr. Bogdan Baltazar, that the ministry was necessary for a better coordination of the balance of materials and for a better utilization of the budget as "a tactical instrument of a long-range policy." The possibility is also provided to directly coordinate foreign assistance and institutions to the end of developing and implementing certain projects for the recovery of the country's economy.

Answering questions on the carrying into effect of the programme for the restructuring of the economy, Mr. Dijmarescu stressed inter alia that a national plan would be advanced until fall, a first decision in connection with it having to be set forth to the prime minister on Tuesday, May 7.

Studies of the restructuring of industry started being made already last year iron and steel and petrochemical industries being in a second elaboration stage. He stressed that emphasis would be placed on the Romanian economic units' starting specialization processes with large foreign companies producing in Romania for them, and with them producing for Romania in other countries and exchanging products each one needs.

Speaking about the restructuring strategy, Mr. Dijmarescu underscored that a legislative framework had been created which has to start being implemented in conditions of resuming an absolutely necessary economic growth rate. We are passing from the pure reform stage to the stage of translating it into fact and then to the adjustment of the economy, the minister specified expressing the hope that we would be able to pass to the stage of stabilization and actual restructuring of the country's economy this summer.

Bratianu Disagrees With Government Reform

AU0605173291 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1318 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 6/5/1991—In an interview with the trade unionist daily "REALITATEA," Ion I. Bratianu, chairman of "Bratianu" Liberal Union expresses, once again, its disagreement with the present program of reform of the government, as "the liberalization of commerce has no real base under the conditions when resources continue to be held by the state. Ion I. Bratianu is of the opinion that "the present government does not appeal to national intelligence and Romanian initiative."

Incriminating the present lack of "motivation of work," Ion I. Bratianu is of the opinion that the Romanian people is able to make the whole economy recover in a short time. On one condition, "not to have the feeling that its wishes were not justified."

We remind that on 28 February this year deputy Ion Bratianu ("Bratianu" Liberal Union) asked the government to resign before the parliament's joint chambers. He said the executive did not take the necessary steps to make the strike of Iasi railway workers no longer necessary and then agreed to have talks with the strikers, although the strike was illegal.

'Alfa' Trade Union Demands After Iliescu Meeting

AU0805073891 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 1-2 May 1991 p 2

["'Alfa' Received by the President"—press release of the Managerial Council of the "Alfa" Trade Union Cartel, on the 29 April Bucharest meeting of its representatives with President Ion Iliescu]

[Text] A meeting between Romania's president, Mr. Ion Iliescu and the Managerial Council of the "Alfa" Trade Union Cartel took place at Cotroceni Palace on 29 April 1991. Mr. Constantin Cojocaru, the economic counselor of the "Alfa" Cartel and presidency counselors, experts in the field, attended the meeting.

The meeting—that lasted for more than three hours—was mainly devoted to discussions of the issue of the "Alfa" alternative for a democratic and reunited Romania, which focuses on the draft on privatization through granting Romanian citizens financial means from the capital accumulated in our country since the revolution, as a realistic and efficient device to pull the country out of communism and out of the current crisis and ensure its steady progress on the road of democracy, well-being, and prosperity, and thus to avoid turning Romania into a nomenclaturist-oligarchical society.

On this occasion, the leaders of the "Alfa" Trade Union Cartel noted that, although president Ion Iliescu showed a greater understanding of the arguments presented in favor of the Alternative than during previous meetings, he still continues to support the variant of the economic reform that has been worked out and applied by the Romanian Government, a variant that, according to us, leads to the destruction of the productive potential of our nation, impoverishes the population, and enriches without justification a stratum of privileged people.

At the end of the meeting, President Ion Iliescu stressed the idea of initiating a broad discussion on the issue of privatization.

In the same evening of 29 April 1991, the Romanian Television, during its program "Another Step Toward Market Economy" presented a "discussion" on the draft law regarding the legal framework of privatization. During the program, experts from the National Agency for Privatization and the National Institute for Economic Research expressed opinions which, we believe, distort the real issue of privatization and misinforms the population on this issue.

In connection with the above issues, the Coordinating Council of the "Alfa" Trade Union Cartel make the following requests of the president and the Romanian Parliament:

1. The Romanian Television should grant a broadcast time of one hour on 6 May 1991, right after the "Current Events" news program, in which Mr. Constantin Cojocaru should present to the televiewers the draft law on privatization, worked out by the government with the assistance of foreign experts, in comparison with its own draft, supported by the "Alfa" Trade Union and the "15 November" - Brasov Inter Trade Union Center.

2. As of 7 May 1991, for two weeks, the television should grant a broadcast time of two hours each night, right after or before "Current Events," in which Mr. Constantin could answer the arguments of any expert—from home or abroad—regarding his proposals, the issue of privatization, and the economic reform.

We request all this because we are convinced that the immediate as well as the long-term future of our nation and the question of whether we and our successors will live in democracy or oligarchy and whether we are going to be slaves or masters in our country firmly depend on the solutions found to this problem.

On this occasion, we remind the population that the National Conference of the "Alfa" Trade Union Cartel will take place in Predeal on 16-17 May 1991.

The Managerial Council of the "Alfa" Trade Union Cartel

Parliamentarians' Statements on Eger Meeting

AU0805081891 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2141 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/5/1991—Yesterday's [6 May] sessions of the Romanian Parliament Chambers were marked by the stances senators and deputies, members of several political parties, took on the Eger "conference" that had the theme "The Present and the Future of Transylvania" about which the Romanian public opinion was informed by the Romanian Television last week.

Mr. Vasile Vacaru, leader of the National Salvation Front (ruling party) group in the Senate, requested "a public, official statement of parties". More particularly of the HDUR (Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania), taking into account that that party's members, some of them in its leadership, attended and addressed the Eger and other meetings held in recent months. In reply, Mr. Gabor Kozsokar asked the parliamentarians on behalf of the HDUR group, to judge the HDUR in consideration of its official statements. Any conference, symposium of a scientific or other nature, the statements made by the people attending and addressing them on their own behalf and not on behalf of their organizations involve oblige in no way the HDUR as an organization or the HDUR parliamentary group, he said. "We are a party that has shown no hesitation at the Romanian nation's major interests," stated Senator Emil Tokacs, National Liberal Party member. "As you very well know, we are and will ever be faithful to the principles regarding the inviolability of Romania's frontiers."

In the Chamber of Deputies, Mr. Ioan Gavra (Romanian National Unity Party), while assessing that the aforesaid "conference" was part and parcel of a destabilizing scenario, insistently promoted against the historical truth, asked the government to abolish the cultural society of Hungarians in Transylvania (EMKE) and indict Bishop Laszlo Tokes who attended the Eger meeting and addressed it.

Mr. Cornel Nica (Socialist Democratic Party) suggested the parliament to demand to Hungarian authorities to

take a clear stand on the matter, while Mr. Augustin Botis (National Salvation Front) pointed to the need "to penally punish those who disregard the national feeling". Mr. Bela Nagy (HDUR) stated that the extremisms at Eger would have been only a reflex of the extremist shows in the Romanian Parliament, while Mr. Geza Domokos (HDUR) appealed to calm and reason specifying that the Eger meeting was held by people who mean nothing in the Hungarian politics. He said the HDUR Presidium would gather today and make its position officially known.

In its yesterday evening's daily news programme the Romanian Television broadcast the stances of several parties, while today's newspapers run articles commenting on the said meeting.

In its editorial "Reaction and Counteraction at the National Question", the independent daily "ADEVARUL" asserts that the facts at Eger "give again the image of a standard scenario of poisoning the spirits in the Middle Danube basin", its result being "the renourishment of suspicions or even of accusations against the Hungarian side (i.e. HDUR e.n.) seen unilaterally and non- discriminatorily, thus laying another brick in the wall again under construction between Romanians and Hungarians". The editorial opines that "by taking the irredentists' stratagems too seriously, the essential fails, that is to restore confidence and to co-exist with the Hungarian population in Romania...", and urges to calm and balance going so far as to ignore common incitements".

The democratic opinion daily "DIMINEATA" views the "scientific" meeting at Eger as "an act of desecrating the Romanian dignity" committed by a group of Hungarian irredentists in an incredible manner at this end of millennium, "with a rudeness and insolence specific to a morbid nationalism". According to this newspaper, it was "an odious operation of mutilating the truth, the already highly fragile relations between Hungary and Romania, to the detriment of both of them. Assessing some Hungarian positions as "shows of totalitarianism practiced by a minority against a majority", the daily "DIMINEATA" expresses its belief that "there are not many of the about 2.5 million Hungarians living in Transylvania who can be so blindfolded by the aberrations maintained at Eger as to see neither the 6 million Romanians nearby nor their history of over 2,000 years on this land."

VR Condemns 'Hungarian Irredentists' Symposium

AU0705170291 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1501 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 7/5/1991—"Vatra Romanesca" [VR] Union, in a statement to the press on the symposium at Eger, Hungary, on the past and future of Transylvania, notes with concern the growing action of "Hungarian irredentists" and reminds that it has called attention on the harmful "revisionist quarters" since its establishment.

"The huge effort 'Vatra Romaneasca' Union has made throughout to call attention on the seriousness of the states of conflicts in Transylvania, part of Romania's body, unfortunately found little response at the level of power" which, by virtue of its lawful prerogatives "should have made accountable those Romanian citizens who were proven to have engaged in activities against the state."

According to the document, the symposium at Eger amounts to unacceptable interference in the domestic affairs of Romania, a unitary, sovereign and independent state," and its attendance by UDMR [Magyar Democratic Union of Romania] members, with its honorary president Bishop Laszlo Tokes at their head, is "a serious violation of the laws of the country."

In consideration of the previous activities of certain participants from Romania and their statements, the "Vatra Romaneasca" Union urges the Romanian authorities to consider the seriousness of the deeds of each of them and announce the steps they have taken. Furthermore, laws are urgently required to clearly define, just like in any state of law, the substance of anti-state activities so that charges may be pressed in due time against all activities that fall under these laws.

National Bank Governor Isarescu on Restructuring

AU0805081791 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2155 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/5/1991—To actually start restructuring the economy we must solve a number of major problems among which imports energy and raw materials for industry, in particular, unfreezing of payments in the national economy in a "coherent and decisive" manner to avoid maintaining economic confusion. Only after these problems are solved can restructuring actually be carried into effect, stated Tuesday [7 May] Mugur Isarescu, governor of Romania's National Bank, at the weekly press conference of the Government's Spokesman Bogdan Baltazar.

Payments will start being unfrozen soon through a 15 billion lei compensation which, if fastly made over June 8-20, should eliminate bilateral freezes between economic agents and create a clearer image of the losses in the ecgnomy and of the situation of various enterprises.

This will prepare the strategy for solving the fundamental problem—offsetting losses which burden banks budgets and enterprises' balance sheets. In this process account will be taken of the mechanism of adjusting the sources derived from privatisation, such as the sale of dwellings built with state funds to the population, the

governor said. Anyhow, the losses, no matter their form—losses proper or unpaid home or foreign credits—will offset in time.

The restructuring of the economy is a difficult process, Mr. Isarescu said, and it must be done fastly otherwise we risk a recurrence of the present situation. He stressed that from this point of view this summer would be "the hottest summer of restructuring."

National Bank Approves New Currency Regulations

AU0605194291 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1824 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 6/5/1991—The managing board of Romania's National Bank approved the regulations concerning current operation and transfers of capital in foreign means of payment. The present money regulations were issued in accordance with banking laws Nos. 33 and 34 of 1991 that had come into force starting May 3.

The concept underlying the present regulations is that payments and other transfers of funds on Romanian territory will be made in the national currency: the leu.

Regulations are correlated with the provisions of the Romanian Government's resolution whereby all shops selling for hard currency on Romanian territory will within maximum 2 months have to readjust their activity so as to carry out all operations with their customers exclusively in lei.

Under the regulations the two exchange rates of the national currency—the leu—will be kept operative, namely the official rate and that of the money market.

The policy of Romania's National Bank, which is aiming at the future unification of the two exchange rates and the passage to the domestic convertibility of the leu, provides for the official rate to apply to payment of foreign trade operations, mainly relating to key imports strictly delimited by the government of Romania.

Physical persons' access to the money market will be permitted after the regulations have been published in the MONITORUL OFICIAL [OFFICIAL MONITOR], with the specification that participation in the daily money auctions organized by the National Bank of Romania can take place only through commercial banks and will strictly follow procedures under the National Bank's regulations on money auctions of February 18, 1991.

Before the commercial banks or any other authorized juristic persons—money exchange offices—have the technical conditions required to carry out operations at the counter, at money market rates, with physical persons, such operations will be made through the already existing mechanism of the inter-bank money market.

The regulations stipulate the right of both Romanian and foreign citizens to own foreign means of payment, including hard currency, under a bank account or in cash, on the territory of Romania.

The regulations set the following restrictions to cash flow into and out of Romania:

a) physical persons, Romanian or foreign citizens crossing into Romania are allowed at the customs no more than 2,500 lei in cash per person/trip and no more than 50,000 U.S. dollars or any equivalent amount in hard currency per person/trip.

Moreover, when entering the country, foreign citizens must declare how much hard currency they have with them in excess of the equivalent amount of 1,000 U.S. dollars, in view of their future exit formalities.

b) physical persons are allowed out of Romania's customs territory as follows:

Romanian and foreign citizens are allowed to take out of Romania 2,500 lei in cash per person/trip—banknotes of 500 lei are excluded; foreign citizens are allowed to take out of Romania a hard currency amount equivalent to 1,000 U.S. dollars, without any papers, as well as an amount equivalent to that declared at entrance; Romanian citizens are allowed to take out of the country the equivalent of 1,000 U.S. dollars per person/trip without any papers; moreover, Romanian citizens can take out of the country the equivalent of 4,000 U.S. dollars in cash—in excess of the aforementioned 1,000—provided they can supply a bank certificate issued by the bank where they opened a personal hard currency account: The certificate must specify the amount is coming from a bank deposit and that it is meant to cover expenses abroad cash payments under current business/purchase of commodities and services for medical, study or other purposes.

While restricting cash flow into and out of Romania, the regulations give physical persons the possibility to make wide transfers of hard currency funds to and from foreign countries, provided such transfers are part of current operations and not capital outflow. That is part of the policy to stimulate capital inflow while discouraging outflow of funds, and to orient the National Bank of Romania toward ensuring, at the first stage, the leu convertibility for capital accounts.

The managing board of Romania's National Bank deems such measures are likely to attract Romanian and foreign citizens' hard currency funds into the Romanian banking system that will provide modern services in keeping with international banking practice.

Provisions under Article 20 of the regulations concern the possibility of currency exchange operations being made at bank or money exchange office counters. The moment such operations become general, the passage to the convertibility of the leu will be visible to every

citizen of the country, but the process depends on the technical equipment of authorized banks.

In accordance with the regulations, currency exchange activities can be unfolded not only by banks but by other entrepreneurs as well, provided they become Romanian juristic persons as per law No. 31/1990 on commercial companies and in keeping with the norms to be drafted and issued by the National Bank of Romania in the coming period.

Moldova People's Front Condemns USSR Treaty

AU0805091291 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 26 Apr 91 p 1

["Declaration of the Assembly of the People's Front of Moldova in Connection With the Signing of the New Treaty of Cooperation, Good Neighborliness, and Friendship Between Romania and the USSR"; issued in Chisinau on 21 April]

[Text] Romania's President Ion Iliescu and Mikhail Gorbachev, president of the USSR, signed a new treaty of cooperation, good neighborliness, and friendship between Romania and the USSR, in Moscow on 5 April 1991. The treaty is meant to replace a similar treaty that was signed between the two countries on 7 July 1970.

Examining the provisions of the new treaty and comparing them with those of the 1970 treaty, the Assembly of the Moldova People's Front notes an obvious advance from the language of the socialist camp, corseted in the iron belt of the armed forces of the former Warsaw Pact, toward the language of the acts and norms of international law. Without examining the political and legal side of the secret additional protocol to the Soviet-German Treaty of 23 August 1939 and the act of the occupation of Bessarabia, North of Bukovina, and Hetza region in 1949, as well as the communist expansion over Romania after World War II, Romania's current leadership is signing a new treaty with the aggressor state. This treaty, even if it does not swear an "everlasting and unbreakable friendship," as included in the provisions of the 1970 treaty, nevertheless stipulates that Romania and the USSR should consider themselves "friendly states in all circumstances," while recognizing the inviolability of borders and territorial integrity. These objectives would be in accordance with the Helsinki Final Act and Paris Charter for a new Europe, if Romania had not been the country that suffered so much as a result of the Soviet empire's expansion.

Today, when the dismantlement of the Soviet empire is taking place, it is not timely to conclude such a treaty because through this treaty the current leadership of Romania—the only country of the former satellite states that has signed such a treaty—acts against its own national interests. Likewise, the current Romanian-Soviet treaty is at variance with the natural process of rebuilding Europe, a process in which the Baltic countries, Georgia, and Armenia are also involved as independent states. The Romanian-Soviet treaty obliterates the right of captive nations within the Soviet empire to national and statal independence.

The ratification of this treaty would have extremely serious repercussions through the fact that it would reconfirm Romania's relationship as vassal to the USSR.

Chisinau [Kishinev], 21 April 1991

The Assembly of the People's Front of Moldova

Mesic Mentions Freezing Relations With Serbia

AU0705162891 Zagreb VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 4 May 91 p 1

[Report on interview with SFRY Presidency President Stipe Mesic by Jadranko Sinkovic in Zagreb; date not given: "Freezing Relations With Serbia?"]

[Text] It is surprising that after the bloody events in eastern and southern Croatia the SFRY Presidency did not convene a joint emergency session. Therefore, we approached SFRY Presidecny Vice President Stipe Mesic in his Zagreb office and asked him: Why is the SFRY Presidency still silent after the latest events in Croatia?

[Mesic] I do not know whether the Presidency is silent or not, nor whether the Presidency can solve anything in this respect. What the Presidency should do once and for all is to make it clear that public peace and order in all republics must be maintained by those entities paid to do so: the police, who would be responsible for it everywhere, including in Croatia. Therefore, the problems of terrorism cannot be resolved by the Army. If the police did their duty, all those who are attacking republican authorities would be discouraged. All those who have good intentions would be in the position to resolve things within the framework and with the means of a civilized law governed state.

Presidency Encouraged Terrorism

Objectively speaking, the Presidency unfortunately has encouraged those who are attacking the authorities. As if some individuals were telling them: You just continue doing this, shoot and do whatever you want; the Army will then appear and nothing will happen. If one knew, however, that after every crime, after every mistreatment of people the strong arm of the law would follow, many people would think twice about what they are doing. Including those who commit criminal acts and flee to another republic, if they knew that this republic would arrest them and hand them over to the legal and judicial entities of the republic in which they committed the crime, things would most certainly be different. In contrast, Simo Dubajic, who organized terrorist units and specific actions, fled to Belgrade, where he was given an apartment. Unfortunately, the Serbian police are not even dreaming of handing him back.

Protection Over Republican Borders

This is where the problem lies: We live in one state; but as soon as one crosses a republican border, he is protected. Those protecting the terrorists will get their comeuppance.

[Sinkovic] What are the Croatian government and leadership planning to do?

[Mesic] The Croatian government and police fully control the situation and will respond with all necessary legal measures. We will arrest all those responsible and will not be tolerant toward anybody, regardless of where they come from. Unfortunately, many of these terrorists are not from the villages where these excesses are taking place. In Knin, there was a large contingent of Serbs and Montenegrins from Kosovo who do not have anything to do there. They have enough problems in Kosovo. What is happening in Borovo amounts to daily transfers of people and arms from Serbia and Vojvodina.

In view of the concrete support that the official representatives of the Serbian government are giving to the Chetnik hordes, it would be logical to freeze relations with Serbia.

Tudjman Talks With HDZ Leaders in Trogir

AU0705184091 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 5 May 91

[Text] Croatian President Franjo Tudjman has had talks in Trogir with presidents of the Dalmatian communes and heads of the communal committees of the Croatian Democratic Community [HDZ]. Tudjman asked the HDZ leaders in Dalmatia not to let control escape from their hands and not to allow any kind of incidents, but it is necessary that the people are mobilized and ready.

Serbs who are loyal have nothing to fear and they should be protected in every situation. There are half a million to 600,000 of them in Croatia and we cannot send them to the moon. They are a fact and I will not be at peace until I go to Knin, Croatian President Franjo Tudjman said in Trogir.

Croatia's Mesic Criticizes Army

LD0705123191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1144 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Zagreb, May 7 (TANJUG)—Yugoslav State Presidency Vice-President Stipe Mesic, who is Croatia's representative in the collective head of state, has accused the Army of protecting those who do not recognize the sovereignty of Croatia and the Croatian authorities.

In an interview in the Zagreb weekly DANAS today, Mesic reproached the Army for "hindering the republic's authorities in performing their duties" and thus "virtually setting the stage for the so-called Serbian autonomous region Krajina to be able to function".

Serbs in Croatian municipalities, where they are the majority population, have declared a Serbian autonomous region Krajina which is not recognized by the Croatian authorities.

Mesic has accused the Army leadership of "turning the Army into the protector of rebels".

The Croatian authorities describe the police of Sar Krajina as "terrorists" and "outlaws".

Mesic has accused "official Serbia" of "wanting Serbs to be the majority population in all republics". He believes that Serbia is responsible for the unrest in Croatia.

Serbia is involved in the unrest since it did not prevent the head of the non-parliamentary opposition Serbian Radical Party Vojislav Seselj and Serbian Assembly Deputy Milan Paroski from coming to Croatia where they held "warmongering speeches", Mesic said.

Two Army Columns Approaching Vinkovci

LD0705122791 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1200 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Today at about 1000 two Army columns, one from Zupanja [Croatia] and the other from Sid [Serbia], set out for Vinkovci. The column from Sid, with 40 armored vehicles, tanks, and [word indistinct], has arrived in the vicinity of [words indistinct]. The other column from Zupanja, with about 15 military armored vehicles, has arrived near Vinkovci. Military forces with heavy weapons have been deployed around the (?officers') building in Juri Dalmatinac Street in Vinkovci.

Thousands Rally in Support of Croatian Government

LD0705131191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1207 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Sibenik, 7 May (TANJUG)—In response to yesterday's events in Split, several thousand people gathered at Ivan Ribar Square in Sibenik today in a peaceful demonstration to express solidarity with the citizens and workers of Split, chanting: We will defend Kijevo; let us go to Kijevo; we want arms; and so on.

It was stressed that the people will not allow a military junta to organize Yugoslavia. The resignation of General Blagoje Adzic, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff, was demanded. Municipal leaders called on the people to refrain from violence and to ensure that the demonstrations remain peaceful. They also announced that food and medical supplies will reach Kijevo today. A message was also read in which the Croatian Internal Affairs Ministry stated that the situation in Knin will be resolved within a month. Weapons will be distributed to the citizens when the Croatian leadership so orders. The demonstrators responded by dispersing peacefully.

Peaceful protest meetings were held today in a number of Sibenik collectives condemning the attacks on the sovereignty and integrity of the Republic of Croatia and criticizing the behavior of the Yugoslav People's Army. Full and unreserved support was given to the Presidency, the government, and the president of the Republic of Croatia.

Daily Sees Presidency Role as 'Farcical'

LD0705131891 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1223 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Titograd, May 7 (TANJUG)—The Titograd daily POBJEDA asks today "if the Yugoslav State Presidency has not taken on the somewhat farcical and dismal role of a hypocritical peacemaker incapable of calling things by their proper name and demanding that those reponsible for the dismembering of Yugoslavia and the fanning of inter-nationality hatred, be made to face the consequences."

Referring to the conflict between the Serbian population and the Croatian police in the republic of Croatia, the daily which is published in Titograd, capital of Montenegro, warns of the "Croatian state terrorism and the unthinkable banditry of its Ministry of the Interior."

This is a "natural consequence of the inability of the Yugoslav state and its leadership to stop and call by its proper name the unheard of state of lawlessness in which an entire people (the Serbs) are being held hostage in the name of a phantom creation (the new independent state of Croatia)," underlines POBJEDA.

The independent state of Croatia was a quisling creation under Nazi German auspices during World War Two and during its existence a genocide was carried out over Serbs, Jews and Romanies.

"In the event that the Yugoslav State Presidency cannot ensure peace, security and the equality of all peoples and citizens on the territory of Yugoslavia, the only honest thing would be for the entire Presidency to offer its resignation and transfer responsibility for the country's future to republican leaders."

Army Reservists in Belgrade Mobilized

LD0705133791 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] HINA [Croatian News Agency] has reported that there were signs in Belgrade last night of increased mobilization of army reservists. HINA has learned that the reservists had to answer call-up notices immediately.

Last night, and especially in the early hours of the morning, soldiers in full military gear were seen leaving the barracks in Belgrade. Tank units and armored personnel carrier units have been seen leaving military depots in an as yet unknown direction.

Protest at Croatian Mistreatment of Journalists

LD0705155491 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1300 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Zagreb, May 7 (TANJUG)—The presidency of the Association of Journalists of Serbia today sharply protested against the frequent attacks on journalists who have been reporting about the events in northeast Croatia over the past few days. Personal safety of journalists reporting from Croatia has been "threatened to the level unseen in war regions in the world" says the letter of protest.

Foreign and domestic journalists were attacked and had their equipment taken away from them over the past few days by armed civilian Croats, who controlled roads in settlements in the vicinity of Borovo Selo where there

had been an armed clash on May 2 between Croatian police and Serbs, the majority population in the village.

The association of journalists of Serbia has asked the Croatian authorities to secure conditions for undisturbed work and personal safety of journalists.

The Croatian Information Ministry yesterday deplored the attack on foreign correspondents who have been reporting on the events in northeastern Croatia over the past few days.

In its announcement, the ministry expressed "regret for the attack on the correspondent of the German WDR radio and television station of Cologne, Marko Josilo, and for preventing the ASSOCIATED PRESS and REUTERS news-photographers Dusan Vranic and Marko Kujundzic from performing their professional duties."

The Croatian Information Ministry, however, did not mention inconveniences with which domestic newsmen were faced.

Armed Croats and members of the Croatian police mistreated also TANJUG, Belgrade television and Yutel teams, and took away their equipment.

The Association of Newsmen of Bosnia-Hercegovina yesterday sent a sharp protest to the Croatian government, condemning "terrifying torture which the Croatian Interior Ministry forces and investigators in Vinkovci have been carrying out against Predrag Kojovic for nearly 20 hours without break."

Bojovic is a reporter of the Sarejevo newspaper NASI DANI.

"Physical and psychical [as received] molesting which Kojovic experienced necessarily request a quick and energetic investigation and punishment of cruel actors of the scandalous case," the association said in the announcement.

Assembly Committee Discusses Events in Croatia

AU0705191491 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 7 May 91

[Milorad Jovic report

[Text] It would be too mild an assessment to say that we are on the brink of civil war: It has already begun. The unrest in Split was caused by [word indistinct] Franjo Tudjman with the call to protest in front of the Military-Naval District command in Split. This was the way that the latest events in Croatia were assessed by Jovan Vuckovic and Admiral Stane Brovet, deputy ministers of internal affairs and national defense, at a session of the Committee for Domestic Policy of the SFRY Assembly Federal Chamber.

[Jovic] [words indistinct] the political and security situation in the country in the speech by SFRY Presidency President Borisav Jovic, the committee members began the session by paying their respects to those who have, as it was said, innocently died in the latest events in Croatia. Logically, the debate concerned the unrest in Split.

Jovan Vuckovic, deputy federal internal affairs minister, said that the latest events were a consequence of the crisis, which has grown worse, and the inability of leaderships to resolve it. He stressed the positive role of the Yugoslav People's Army and emphasized that he will not get involved in the causes and consequences of all the events.

[Begin Vuckovic recording] However, it can and must be said here that this basically involves the destiny and future of parts of a people that live on the territory of other republics, their right to a national identity and equality, and the justified fear that history will be repeated. Until this is understood and until [word indistinct] strategic moves are made to resolve this basic problem it would be difficult for us to expect a slightly better (?security) situation. We can only expect a worse situation. [end recording]

Admiral Stane Brovet, deputy minister for national defense, denied the very contentious claim that the Army had prevented vehicles from gaining access to the village of Kijevo, which was the official reason for the attacks on the Split Military District command.

Brovet said that Split Radio had been constantly calling on the population to join the demonstrations. A soldier was attacked on an armored vehicle. How? The event was witnessed by the whole domestic and international public, which saw the television recording and could see that he was not wounded much. He managed to get into the car. The lieutenant, who had gone to help and who was attacked by a civilian, fired a warning burst of fire into the air. The investigation into this has not yet finished however. One member of the Split militia in camouflage uniform [words indistinct] not having aimed, mowed down with a burst of fire two military policemen who were in the corridor of the command. Sasa Gesovski was killed and Tone Stojcev was wounded.

Admiral Brovet briefed the delegates on the proposals of the Federal Executive Council [FEC], which were, as he said, endorsed in principle at last night's meeting between FEC President Ante Markovic and Croatian President Franjo Tudjman.

[Begin Brovet recording] Among other things, the most important thing is to stop all activities that lead to conflicts and to seek a peaceful and democratic solution to the crisis. It is also important to guarantee the borders of Yugoslavia; prevent the activity of extremists; prevent conflicts; stop the propaganda war; guarantee the legal system and security; empower the Yugoslav People's Army [JNA] to secure peace; and to prevent conflicts

between republics and civil war. All other armed formations, apart from police ones, should be dissolved and armaments should be taken away from the population and put into warehouses.

Then there are several other measures. For example, measures to halt the economic war and to organize a joint commission for investigating the events in the Knin region, Borovo Selo, and Split. Attacks on the JNA and pressures on active military personnel and members of their families should cease, and (?transport should be established). The tourist season should be secured. Compensation for the property that has been damaged in the latest demonstrations in several places should be provided. (?That is basically everything). [end recording]

The (?debate) in the committee ranged from the demand for the JNA to continue to do everything in its powers to prevent civil war to the (?condemnation and) claim that it prevents a law governed state from operating in Croatia because of its armed force. Moreover, the delegates from Serbia think that the latest events in Croatia are a consequence of the constitutional and legal negation of the existence of the Serbian people in this republic, while the delegates from Croatia see the cause of everything to be, as they stressed, in growing greater Serbian pretensions.

The debate conducted in the committee will serve as the basis for the debate at the session of the SFRY Assembly Federal Chamber scheduled for 9 May.

SPS Sees No Reason for Sandzak Autonomy

AU0705210091 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 7 May 91

[Mirjana Trajkovic report]

[Text] A news conference is under way in Belgrade that has been called by the Executive Committee of the Main Committee of the Socialist Party of Serbia [SPS]. The subject is the latest events in the country.

[Trajkovic] The SPS expresses sincere regret at the death of one and the wounding of another soldier in Split yesterday and assesses that the attack on the Yugoslav People's Army is nothing but an open call to break up Yugoslavia. This was stated today at a news conference at SPS headquarters by Dr. Zoran Arandjelovic, member of the Executive Committee.

He assessed that after the events in Split, [word indistinct] the Serbian-Croatian conflict is not (?the only) subject of discussion, (?but that) the Croatian authorities are initiating the demolition of Yugoslavia on all fronts. This is the last stage in the secessionist scenario of the Croatian Democratic Community, Arandjelovic said.

Vladimir Stambuk did not want to comment directly on Vojislav Seselj's activities, but he indicated that it is the SPS's stand that the crisis should be resolved solely through institutional means, that is to say, through the existing Yugoslav institutions because Yugoslavia still exists.

There was also talk at the news conference about the situation in the Sandzak communes of Novi Pazar, Sjenica, and Tutin. National division is considerable in these places and distrust is great, Miroslav Markovic, member of the Executive Committee, said. He specified that there are no justified reasons in Serbia for the autonomy of the Muslim people in the Sandzak. The Muslims in Serbia are totally equal and have no reason to seek protection from outside, Markovic stressed.

Finally, let us say that the Executive Committee this morning supported Borisav Jovic's nomination as president of the SPS. Jovic will remain a member of the Yugoslav Presidency, it was said at the SPS' news conference.

Serbia Forms Council To Assist Croatian Serbs

LD0705170591 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1312 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Belgrade, 7 May (TANJUG)—The ministry for ties with the Serbs outside Serbia is setting up a council to provide assistance for the Serbian people in Croatia. During a news conference on Serbian government premises, Minister Stanko Cvijan said that the council will work as an operative body in line with current problems and requirements of the Serbs under threat.

The link through which the assistance will take shape will be the Krajina Serbian Autonomous Region [SAO] government, Cvijan said.

A bank account has been opened into which the citizens and collectives will be able to pay money for assistance—and, Cvijan stressed, the Krajina SAO government will be consulted on the dispatch of every assistance dinar. The minister said today that there are foreign trade firms that have already announced their willingness to dispatch financial aid and food assistance.

During the news conference Cvijan was asked several questions referring to the the Serbian government attitude to the events in Croatia. Attention focused on Cvijan's statement in Jagodnjak, near Beli Manastir, when he spoke standing side by side with Seselj. The journalists asked whether after what Seselj's men did in Croatia he would again speak together with Sesel. Cvijan said that that had been a chance occurrence, that his intentions are to calm the people, and that if asked again he would not refuse to speak at a meeting due to be addressed by Seselj.

Asked why the Serbian government did not disarm the illegal armed units, such as Dusan Silni [named after the Serbian medieval King Dusan the Great], Cvijan said that the government had no knowledge of anyone being armed [nema saznanja o naoruzavanju] in Serbia.

Answering a question as to what aid is at this juncture most needed by the Serbs in Croatia, Cvijan said that this was a war situation, and that "one knows what is the most required item in a war situation."

Montenegro Against Croatian Sovereignty by Force

LD0705162691 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1415 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Belgrade, May 7 (TANJUG)—The government of the Yugoslav Republic of Montengro today came out strongly against the "policy of realizing the sovereignty of the Croatian state by force."

The Montenegrin government said at an extraordinary meeting today that such a policy by Croatia was unacceptable "when there exists in Yugoslavia full political consensus that the democratically expressed will of all the country's peoples to self-determination, including secession from the Yugoslav community, will be respected."

The Montenegrin government asked the Federal authorities either to take urgent steps in order to find a solution, or to admit their impotence and step down.

President of the Croatian Democratic Union in the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina Stjepan Kljuic told newsmen today that his party (which with two others shares power in the Republic) could not accept yesterday's assessment by the Yugoslav People's Army (YPA) [JNA] leadership that a civil war has already started in Yugoslavia.

The Alliance of the Independent Trade Unions of Yugoslavia today urged the republican trade union councils of Serbia and Croatia to do all in their might to create conditions in which it will become possible for the situation to be overcome through democratic dialogue.

The Belgrade War Veterans' Organization demanded today that the Yugoslav Presidency "once and for all take over the function of supreme commander of the Armed Forces."

Failing this, the veterans said, the YPA must defend the integrity of Yugoslavia and protect its nations and citizens from all those who are inciting and provoking an ethnically or religiously motivated war.

The Skopje daily NOVA MAKEDONIJA writes that the "civil war has not gained tragic dimensions thanks to the YPA."

The daily points out that the military itself yesterday became the victim of fanatical nationalism"—"when a young soldier was killed by enraged Croatian nationalists in anti-YPA demonstrations in Split."

Vukovar-Vinkovci Traffic Stopped by Barricades

LD0705215991 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1422 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Vukovar, 7 May (TANJUG)—Traffic between Vukovar and Vinkovci and between Vukovar and Osijek is still at a standstill because the barricades near Brsadin and Trpinja have not been removed. Traffic in the direction of Tovarnik and Sid and towad the Belgrade-Zagreb highway is flowing, but only a few vehicles can be seen on the road.

On the road in and out of Vukovar, in the suburb of Mitnica, the police are carrying out a detailed check of vehicles and search of passengers.

No Army Representatives at Presidency Session

LD0705164891 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1500 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] The SFRY Presidency is still in session in Belgrade. It has resumed its discussion that began yesterday on the political-security situation in Croatia. Introductory remarks were made by [SFRY Presidency] President Borisav Jovic.

Although special attention today is focussed on the army leadership's assessment yesterday of the situation, which said that Yugoslav society is already in a state of civil war; and, as it were, on the army's ultimatum to the state Presidency and other Federal entities, no army representative is attending today's session despite a provision under which the national defense secretary must attend Yugoslav Presidency sessions when they deal with the security of the country or of one of its parts.

Today's session is being attended by Federal Executive Council President Ante Markovic and Croatian Prime Minister Josip Manolic.

Presidency Session Agenda Viewed

LD0705175491 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1508 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Belgrade, May 7 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Presidency continues its extraordinary meeting today by reviewing the current political situation in the country TANJUG has learned.

The presidency yesterday condemned "attacks against the Yugoslav People's Army and the violent behaviour of demonstrators in Split."

Judging by a statement issued late last night, the collective head of state will also discuss today the latest proposals by the staff of the Yugoslav people's Army (YPA) [JNA] supreme command, made in response to the continued deterioration of the sutuation in the country.

Yugoslav Defence Secretary Veljko Kadijevic broke off hospital treatment and during yesterday's presidency

meeting called its president, Dr Borisav Jovic, and conveyed to him a five-point document containing assessments and positions by the supreme command staff.

The staff said that in its view the Yugoslav society "is already in the midst of a civil war," and that the "manner in which the YPA has been used so far to prevent ethnic strife can no longer be efficacious."

The Presidency said the "concrete proposals and warnings" by the supreme command staff should be reviewed in the presence of the top republican figures, and scheduled the second part of its meeting for today.

In the meantime, Croatian Presdient Dr Franjo Tudjman last night met in the republican capital Zagreb with Federal Prime Minister Ante Markovic, Federal Interior Secretary Petar Gracanin and Deputy Federal Defence Secretary Stane Brovet.

Tudjman this morning changed his mind and decided to set out on his trip to London, which he had called off yesterday. He will be the only republican president who is not attending today's presidency session, and his replacement today (and on May 4) is Croatian Prime Minister Josip Manolic.

The second issue on the agenda of today's Presidency meeting, as TANJUG has learned, will be a review of a report about the series of meetings between the republican presidents and presidencies on the country's political future, and agreement on further efforts to resolve the constitutional crisis.

A statement on today's presidency meeting is expected to be issued after its conclusion.

Vukovar Radio Returns to Air

LD0705211691 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1519 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Vukovar, 7 May (TANJUG)—Croatian Radio-Studio Vukovar today officially came back on the air under its new name. Listeners were told that the Croatian Information Ministry has appointed Zdravko Seremet as acting director of Croatian Radio-Studio Vukovar. Seremet currently holds the position of professional secretary of the Vukovar Croatian Democratic Community municipal committee.

Milan Corak, the incumbent director of Radio Vukovar (public company) and Mirko Stankovic, its editor in chief, have been suspended under a decision taken by Croatian Information Minister Hrvoje Hitrec.

Kavadarci Rally Protests Soldier's Murder

LD0705174691 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1617 GMT 7 May 91

[Summary] Kavadarci, 7 May (TANJUG)—Over 10,000 people gathered in the central town square in Kavadarci, where Private Saso Gesovski was born, to express their dismay over the cruel murder of this 19 year-old lad. "The assembled citizens were addressed by Ivan Culev, president of the Kavadarci municipality, who denounced this unprecedented murder, which he said was the consequence of the nationalistic hegemony of Croatian and Serbian politicians. He called on all progressive people to resist with all their might the resurgence of sinister Ustasha and Chetnik ideas, which are plunging the people into a fratricidal war."

During the protest meeting Blazo Tancev, Kavadarci municipal national defense secretary, read out the report of the naval district command on the murder of Saso Gesovski., "The report notes that Gesovski was killed in Split at 1110 yesterday. The private was standing next to his commander and was detailed to help his comrades in the armored transport carrier when he fired into the air. At that moment a Croatian Interior Ministry member opened fire on army personnel with an automatic weapon. Saso Gesovski from Kavadarci was mortally wounded and Private Toni Stojcev from Makedonska Kamenica was slightly injured."

The body of the 19 year-old will be flown to Kavadarci by an army helicopter this afternoon. He will be buried tomorrow in the town cemetery.

Warrant Issued for Vojislav Seselj's Arrest

LD0705180191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1656 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Zagreb, 7 May (TANJUG)—According to Croatian radio this afternoon, the Osijek district public prosecutor's office today submitted a request with the Osijek investigative judge to begin an investigation against Vojislav Seselj on the grounds that "on 21 April 1991, in the village of Jagodnjak near Beli Manastir, at a public meeting he provoked and fomented national hatred and intolerance between the Croatian and the Serbian peoples and to disrupt their peaceful coexistence in the Republic of Croatia."

The self-styled Chetnik leader, Vojislav Seselj, in this way committed a criminal act against the Republic of Croatia under article 236 of the penal code of the Republic of Croatia." On the basis of this request the Osijek district court investigative judge has "decided to set in motion an investigation against Vojislav Seselj on the grounds that he committed the above act; and in line with the law on criminal procedure, the judge has ordered the detention of Vojislav Seselj for reasons cited in article 191, paragraph two, point two and three of the same law."

On the basis of article 551, paragraph one of the above law the investigative judge also orderd "That a warrant be issued for the arrest of Vojhislav Seselj." Under the same order, once identified, Vojislav Seselj must be immediately arrested regardless of which part of Yugoslavia he is in, and handed over to the prison of the Osijek district court."

Macedonia Proclaims Day of Mourning for Soldier

LD0705180391 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1658 GMT 7 May 91

[Summary] Skopje, 7 May (TANJUG)—During its session today the Macedonian government decided that tomorrow, when Private Saso Gesovski is buried in Kavadarci, there will be a day of general mourning throughout Macedonia.

Democrats in Split Demand Emergency Session

AU0705194591 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 7 May 91

[Mirko Radak report from Split]

[Text] [Radak] In these gray times both in the weather and in the atmosphere in peoples' hearts, the situation in Split is calm. This could not be said for parts of its hinterland.

The road running through Sinj, Vrlika, and Knin is still blocked. Inhabitants of Serbian nationality in the town of Civljane have [word indistinct] the roads and are not allowing anyone through.

Just before this report, we learned that the convoy with food, clothes, and medicines that set off for Kijevo late yesterday afternoon, has not arrived at its destination yet.

Great activity by parties and their leaders could be noticed in Split today. All of them have been appealing for peace, reason, and dignity to prevent new casualties. Apart from making a call to oppose all types of extremism, the Split Party of Democratic Changes demands that the highest organs of authority in the town hold an emergency session.

There have so far been no official statements about yesterday's demonstrations and the tragic consequences. It is known, however, that the two armored transporters and four army jeeps that were seized from the Army by participants in the demonstrations and taken to the Split police administration have been returned to where they should be. They were accompanied by about 30 soldiers who had also ended up in the militia building.

There were quite a few citizens' gatherings this afternoon throughout the wider Dalmatian area, as well as protests and obstacles on the roads. The authorities in Kastel have asked the inhabitants there not to go near the barracks in Divulje. Croatian Radio's Split Studio informed its listeners that the people of Imok went out into the streets, while children in Metkovic did not go to school today just as most of the workers in this small town on the Neretva did not go to work.

Reports are coming from all areas that there are quite a few obstacles on roads leading in the direction of Hercegovina, where the situation is also quite complex.

Drnovsek on State-Army, Serbia-Croatia Tension

LD0705200991 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1830 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Ljubljana, 7 May (TANJUG)—"The latest Yugoslav People's Army [JNA] supreme command statement can be interpreted as a kind of distancing from the Presidency or non-recognition of the role of the SFRY Presidency as supreme commander." This was said, among other things, by Dr. Janez Drnovsek, a SFRY Presidency member from the Republic of Slovenia, in a statement for Radio Ljubljana during a break at the federal presidency session today.

Having stressed that he believes the JNA is in an extremely difficult situation, Drnovsek pointed to the "very sincere intentions of the JNA in stepping up its activities to prevent a civil war and intra-national conflicts." However, he added, "it is of exceptional importance for our overall relations that in so doing the JNA should remain within the framework of our legal system, within the framework of the institutions of the federation it is still citing, otherwise we could have an entirely new quality of relations. The presidency would no longer be there, there would no longer be a state, but something entirely different. I must say that some people in the presidency minimize this issue. It seems to them quite understandable and normal if the JNA is to take on the necessary role."

In his statement transmitted by Radio Ljubljana at the beginning of its central news bulletin tonight Dr. Janez Drnovsek made the assessment that "the key to the solution of the Croatia-Serbia conflict lies in direct talks between the leaderships of the two republics." The others, stressed Dr. Drnovsek, "do not have a decisive role to play, but we have to take the heat out of the situation and truly prevent a civil war. Any further exacerbation of the Croatia-Serbia conflict would place an additional question mark against a new agreement between the sovereign Yugoslav republics on a possible new federation."

There are two concepts in the state presidency on the solution of the present crisis, said Drnovsek. The champions of the first one believe that the problems should be resolved exclusively within the framework of the Republic of Croatia and that the federal army should help only if Croatia is not in a position to resolve the problems on its own. The champions of the second totally negate the role of the republic [of Croatia]. They advocate the army's direct involvement in the solution of the problem.

Dr. Janez Drnovsek does not rule out the possibility of a peaceful solution of the crisis, stressing at the end of his statement, which was his first assessment of the proceedings at the SFRY Presidency session, that "everyone is conscious of the catastrophic consequences of a possible turn to civil war."

Lifting of Kosovo State of Emergency Urged

LD0805045191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1836 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Belgrade, May 7 (TANJUG)—Journalists in the Republic of Slovenia and their ethnic Albanian colleagues from the Province of Kosovo today called on all journalist and (?democratic) associations in Yugoslavia to express solidarity with their demand for "lifting the state of emergency" in Kosovo.

The province, a part of the Republic of Serbia, is predominantly populated by ethnic Albanians.

At a meeting in Ljubljana, the journalists accused Serbian authorities of "totalitarian terror in Kosovo" and asked that a parliamentary system be introduced in the province and that all rights, including the right to political sovereignty, be ensured for ethnic Albanians.

The Serbian authorities last summer (?suspended) the Kosovo government and parliament and, recently, the provincial presidency. They said the measures were motivated by separatism among ethnic Albanians and their intention to proclaim Kosovo a republic and join it to neighbouring Albania.

The journalists also demanded the abolition of the emergency measures imposed for these reasons by the Serbian authorities upon Albanian language (?media in) Kosovo.

Another demand concerned the release of three ethnic Albanian newsmen, claimed to be held as "political prisoners."

Meanwhile, leader of the Kosovo Green Party Dragan Jovanovic told a press conference in Belgrade today that a "caravan of peace for Kosovo," which included members of the Italian (?Green) Party, had found that a dialogue between ethnic Albanians and Serbs in the province was nevertheless possible.

This peace mission, which included experts in ethnic minorities' questions and chairman of the Green faction in the European Parliament Alexander Langer, established that a large number of ethnic Albanian intellectuals still want a peaceful resolution of the Yugoslav crisis.

Montenegro Condemns Croatian 'State Terror'

LD0705202491 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1843 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Titograd, May 7 (TANJUG)—The leadership of Montenegro's ruling Communist Party today accused the Croatian authorities of being directly responsible for the dramatic situation in this Yugoslav republic.

At a special session, the Presidency of the republican League of Communists Central Committee accused Croatian President Franjo Tudjman of provoking an escalation of nationalism and chauvinism.

A statement from the session says that "Tudjman invited the Croatian people to demonstrate outside the command of the Split naval district."

One soldier was killed and another wounded in yesterday's anti-Army demonstrations in the central-Dalmatian town of Split.

The Montenegrin Communists' leadership assessed that the "attempts at violent diintegration of Yugoslavia and discrediting of its Army mark the continuity of the policy pursued by the current Croatian authorities."

The leadership asks the "competent organs to resist the violent undermining of the existing constitutional order" and protests against "state terror in the Republic of Croatia."

Slovene Foreign Minister on 'Serious' Situation

AU0705205391 Vienna ORF Television Network in German 2005 GMT 7 May 91

[Interview with Slovene Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel by Robert Hochner in Linz—live]

[Text] [Hochner] Mr. Minister, over the past few days we have heard many different assessments. [Croatian] President Tudjman said that the country is on the brink of civil war. The defense minister said that the country is already involved in a civil war. I ask you: How do you assess the situation in your homeland and, in particular, in your neighboring country, Croatia?

[Rupel] Well, the situation is very serious, I would like to point out. As for war, well, it is a struggle for the eastern border of Western Europe, I would say. Of course, there are elements of civil war, but at the moment in Slovenia the situation is still under control. Of course, the situation is very serious. I see this as a conflict between the military and the civilian society.

Today the Presidency met without the generals. The generals said that they would act independently of politics now. This is something serious.

[Hochner] Excuse me, may I ask you—since this is a piece of new information for us, which we have not received so far. According to your information, the military leadership told the politicians: No matter what you decide—if you decide anything at all—we will do what we, the Army, consider right. Did I understand you correctly?

[Rupel] Yes. I do not have anything in writing, but the information I have received says that the Army is determined not to take the politicians very seriously anymore and that it really wants to act independently.

[Hochner] Mr. Minister, today countries from all over the world—from Austria, the United States, Great Britain, and Italy—have issued appeals to your country to come to a peaceful solution, to a peaceful separation if

it is no longer possible to live together. Do you still see chances for a peaceful separation of the individual parts of Yugoslavia?

[Rupel] I think that an international group, international involvement, would perhaps help in this situation. I talked with Austrian Foreign Minister Mock, and he told me about his initiative [calling for the establishment of a council of wise international politicians to help solve the conflict]. I must say that this is a positive initiative. I do think that the involvement of wise politicians from Europe could do good in at least two respects.

The two points are: Negotiations between Serbs and Croats, of course, and also negotiations between Slovenia and Yugoslavia. These would be two very important points in my view, where international involvement might help a bit.

[Hochner] Mr. Minister, you yourself mentioned negotiations between Slovenia—that is, your republic—and Yugoslavia. What do the events in Croatia mean for Slovenia's methods of moving toward independence, which has already been decided? I think that there is no doubt about the ultimate goal.

[Rupel] You know that we did many things together with Croatia and Croatian leaders, that we drew up papers together, which we passed on to the central government, that we jointly drew up the idea of a confederation, etc. We are still together in these efforts. Of course, now Slovenia has made much progress in its preparations for independence, and perhaps we will move a bit faster than Croatia. This should not mean, however, that we will....

[Hochner] ...leave Croatia alone?

[Rupel] No, we do not want to do that.

[Hochner] Mr. Minister, thank you very much for the interview.

Former Minister: Croatian Police Provoke Serbs

LD0805034491 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2054 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Belgrade, May 7 (TANJUG)—Resigned Serbian Minister of (?the) Interior Radmilo Bogdanovic on Tuesday accused the police in Croatia of increasingly frequent "provocations and disturbance of inhabitants of Serbian villages" in this Yugoslav Republic.

Bogdanovic said this in a letter, replying to a telegram received over the weekend from Croatian Minister of Police Josip Boljkovac, who asked that "all measures be taken against the coming of volunteers with Chetnik symbols [as received] to the territory of Croatia."

Chetniks are the nationalist monarchists who collaborated with the occupying forces during the war.

In his letter, Bogdanovic points out that Vojislav Seselj, Milan Paroski and other Chetnik extremists had come to the Croatian territory unarmed.

"If their statents in Jagodnjak," a village in northeast Croatia, "contained the elements of criminal offence, it remains unclear why the Croatian Interior Ministry organs ... failed to take criminal action or start procedure against them before the magistrates' court," says Bogdanovic.

He claims that the recent tragic events in Borovo Selo were the result of provocations by the Croatian Ministry of the Interior.

Twelve members of a special Croatian police unit and three villagers of Serbian nationality were killed last Thursday in an armed clash in Borovo (?Selo) in Croatia's Slavonia region.

Bogdanovic recalls that in the night between Wednesday and Thursday four Croatian policemen "tried to bring down the Yugoslav national flag from the mast in this peaceful village through which they drove.

"Warned by local night guards not to do so, they responded by instantly opening fire," which resulted in the wounding of two policemen. Bogdanovic says that a few hundred members of the special police uit, armed with "hand launchers [as received] and other war equipment besides automatic weapons," were sent to the village next morning to "free the two captured policemen."

Bogdanovic also accuses the Croatian Ministry of the Interior of failing to abide by an accord on cooperation, including the duty of exchanging information.

Repercussions Continue After Soldier's Death

LD0705221391 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2047 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Skopje, Split, Yugoslavia, May 7 (TANJUG)—The government of the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia today demanded that possibilities be considered for a selective return to Macedonia of Macedonians serving their term with the Yugoslav Army in the other republics.

The republican government also demanded that a higher percentage of future recruits serve their army term in their native republic- Macedonia.

The Macedonian government considers the demands "justified in view of the fact that soldiers from Macedonia are not in the position to defend the Yugoslav borders, but are victims of political and other games being played in the country."

The same demands were voiced at numerous protest rallies held throughout Macedonia yesterday and today.

The government session followed upon the killing of soldier Sasa Gesovski and the wounding of soldier Toni

Stojcev, both from Macedonia, during yesterday's anti-army riots by Croats in the Croatian coastal town of Split.

The Yugoslav Army responded to the incident by raising the level of alert of its units, carrying out partial mobilization and announcing its intention to shoot back in case of future attacks on its members.

The Macedonian government today asked that the republican parliament hold a special session and pronounce itself on the measures and activities of the Yugoslav Army in Macedonia.

The government ordered a higher level of alert of the security organs in the republic and appealed to the citizens and political parties to maintain peace and dignity.

The Macedonian parliament declared a day of mourning in the republic tomorrow at the death of Gesovski.

The command of the Split naval district today bid farewell to the killed soldier with full military honours. The body of Gesovski has been transported to his native Kavadarci, where it will be interred tomorrow.

Admiral Josip Erceg, who spoke at the ceremony in Split, stressed that the death of Gesovski is a "direct consequence of insane petty political, nationalistic and selfish games." The games, Admiral Erceg underscored, are being conducted "also from the leadership of Croatia, headed by (Croatian) President Franjo Tudjman who had, a day before the tragic rioting in the streets of Split, invited the people to demonstrate."

[Words indistinct] the death of Gesovski, Croatian President Franjo Tudjman sent a telegram of condolences to Macedonian President Kiro Gligorov, and President of the Croatian Parliament Zarko Domljan sent a telegram to President of the Macedonian Parliament Stojan Andov.

In his telegram, Tudjman says that the Croatian authorities are ready to investigate the circumstances of the killing of Gesovski and punish the culprits. For is part, Domljan stresses that the "life of a young man has been destroyed in the justified revolt of the Croatian people against two-faced and unprincipled acts of the Yugoslav Army."

Armored Unit Remains Blocked at Polog

LD0705221691 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2136 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Mostar, 7 May (TANJUG)—A stalemate still persists in the village of Polog near Listica; several thousand local inhabitants barred passage to a Yugoslav People's Army armored unit for about 10 hours today. Nor did the demonstrators accept the proposal by Stjepan Kljuic, a member of the Presidency of Bosnia and Hercegovina, to unblock the passage. They demand that the armored cars return to Mostar barracks.

Stjepan Kljuic has been on the scene since 1900 together with Bosnia Assembly Vice President Mariofil Ljubic and Bosnian National Defense Minister Jerko Doko. Kljuic said that talks are in progress with top army and state leaders. On the spot the atmosphere is tense and fraught with expectation. There have been no incidents between the demonstrators and the military.

Tudjman Says Civil War 'Not Inevitable'

LD0805004891 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2200 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] London, May 7 (TANJUG)—President of the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia Franjo Tudjman said here tonight that "civil war in Yugoslavia is not inevitable" and that a solution to the present crisis can be found.

Tudjman was a guest on the British television Channel Four news tonight. The anchorman directly asked Tudjman whether he felt responsible for the incident in Split yesterday because he had urged the Croatian people to demonstrate against the Army, and the Croatian president replied that he did not.

Tudjman said that he had not called on the people to turn out against the Yugoslav Army, but had only said that Croatia would defend itself if attacked.

In a statement yesterday, the Yugoslav Defense Ministry indirectly blamed Tudjman for the events in the central Adriatic port city of Split where one soldier was killed and another wounded in anti-Army demonstrations.

The ministry statement said that Tudjman, "according to reports in some public media" had asked in the port city of Trogir on May 5 "why demonstrations were not staged outside the naval district command, so that the world [could] see that this is not only a struggle of the leadership, but of the entire nation of the Republic of Croatia as (?well)."

In his interview here tonight, Tudjman proceeded to explain that, under the usual procedure of rotation, representative of Croatia in the Yugoslav State Presidency Stipe Mesic would take over as president of the State Presidency on May 15. He also said that Croatia would respect that Presidency for as long as it existed.

Tudjman assessed that the collective head of state of Yugoslavia would exist until accord is reached on a confederation or until Yugoslavia is "dissociated."

Listica Situation Normalizing; Officials Arrive

LD0805000191 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2300 GMT 7 May 91

[Zeljko Grcic's report by phone from Listica]

[Text] The security situation in the territory of Western Hercegovina is still very complex, despite indications that the situation is slowly normalizing. Earlier on,

covers were put on tank and machine guns, and inhabitants of Listica and nearby villages brought food to JNA [Yugoslav People's Army] soldiers. In the village of Polog, which is half-way between the towns of Mostar and Listica and where inhabitants of Listica and JNA soldiers are facing each other across 50 meters, General [Milovan] Zorc, commander of the Sarajevo Military District, arrived. Gen. Zorc said he had no objections to the behavior of the civilians.

At the moment of reporting, and now it is 50 minutes past midnight, a member of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Presidency, Mr. Stjepan Kljujic [leader of the Croatian Democratic Community for Bosnia-Hercegovina]; Assembly Vice President Mariofil Ljubic; and Bosnia-Hercegovina Defense Minister Jerko Doko have arrived again in Polog. They stressed that they will remain with their people until the situation is resolved.

According to unofficial reports, we have learned that the SFRY Presidency was briefed about the security situation in Western Hercegovina, and that at this very moment the Presidency is discussing this topic.

Crisis Reportedly 'Abating' in Eastern Slavonia

LD0805003291 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0000 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] The situation in eastern Slavonia is still very uncertain tonight. Compared to previous nights, however, it can be said that the crisis is abating. This is true especially for the Vukovar region. Despite this, barricades and armed guards on roads are still keeping Vukovar in a state of isolation, in particular at night. Less than 50 percent of pupils yesterday attended primary and secondary schools in this town.

The Ilok bridge and the Batina bridge [both linking Croatia with Vojvodina] are controlled by the Yugoslav People's Army with sychronized assistance from the Croatian police.

Serb Village in Croatia Wants Army Presence

LD0805025391 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0000 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Last night a military police unit together with the president of the Vukovar municipal executive council entered the village of Brsadin, where two grenades had exploded. Inhabitants of this Serbian village [in Croatia] insisted that the Army and not the Croatian ministry for Internal Affairs carry out an investigation. They also agreed to remove barricades, if a Yugoslav People's Army unit is stationed in the village. The Army is not authorized to do this, although one army unit (?is) nearby.

In the past four days, 300 Serbs crossed over from the Vukovar municipality [in Croatia] into the Sid municipality [in Vojvodina]. This has been officially confirmed. The president of the Sid executive council, Stevan Vujasinovic, informed TANJUG about this.

JNA Helicopters Circle Western Hercegovina

LD0805083391 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatia 0800 GMT 8 May 91

[Zeljko Grgic report by telephone from Listica]

[Text] [Grgic] The security situation in western Hercegovina has become more tense this morning. Since early morning YPA [JNA, Yugoslav People's Army] aircraft and helicopters have been flying over the territory of western Hercegovina. This has resulted in increased tension among the population. We have learned unnofficially that all western Hercegovina municipalities have blocked approach roads to Croatia and the people of the region have pledged that, if necessary, they will defend their towns and Croatia. We have just learned that an Army unit of four armored personnel carriers, two ambulances, and 26 trucks full of soldiers in full combat gear has arrived at the barracks in northern Mostar. The situation in Listica is under control with no incidents. The police have set up a 50-meter-wide buffer zone between the Army and the people.

Paper Cited on 7 May Presidency Session

LD0805113191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0808 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Belgrade, 8 May (TANJUG)—The morning session of the SFRY Presidency meeting yesterday was dominated by the view that "Kadijevic's five points" should be accepted as both a sound assessment of the political situation and of the Army's role and position in the political and in recent armed conflicts in the country, BORBA says today in an article entitled 'Wider Powers for the Army?'.

The article cites an unofficial account of the proceedings of the SFRY Presidency's expanded session yesterday noting that during the morning the Federal defense secretary's "five points" nearly gained majority approval. Only Slovenia and Croatia opposed this political assessment explicitly, albeit with certain nuances. In their view, at the current political juncture the Army should not be given wider powers because current delicate problems in Croatia could be solved within the republic itself.

According to the unofficial account, there was some uncertainty about whether the afternoon session would be resumed. The SFRY Presidency was presented with two options. Under the first one, ie. a "five point" proposal by Veljko Kadijevic, the defense secretary, the JNA [Yugoslav People's Army] would be given much wider powers in the efforts to resolve interethnic conflicts and defuse the civil war that already grips the country. According to the second option, advocated yesterday the the representatives of Croatia and Slovenia, the dramatic Yugoslav crisis—which has now culminated in a civil war—can be resolved within the framework of the powers invested in the republics.

BORBA also learned unofficially that in the afternoon session the representatives of Macedonia and Bosnia-Hercegovina had displayed a certain amount of reservation. They did not support outrightly either option although during the debate the views expressed by the two republics were much closer to those proposed by the Army command.

It was openly said during the evening session that the main responsibility for the clashes rested with the leaderships of both Serbia and Croatia and that further talks between the two republics could eventually yield a small amount of common sense. Other participants in yesterday's talks, however, remained unconvinced.

Regardless of the prophets that the option will prevail that wishes to accept General Kadijevic's demands, it still remains extremely uncertain which political option is going to win.

In conclusion, BORBA notes that at the expanded session of the SFRY Presidency, [Croatian Prime Minister] Josip Manolic, in a way, denied [Federal Executive Council President] Ante Markovic's statement about an alleged agreement with [Croatian President] Franjo Tudjman who apparently accepted the Federal Government's 11-point plan.

Vukovar Region Reported 'Mainly Quiet'

LD0805055891 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0546 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Vukovar, 8 May (TANJUG)—Last night was mainly quiet in the Vukovar region. Shots could be heard only in the village of Bsradin. In Vukovar itself and the town of Borovo, streets were deserted.

According to the Vukovar Information Center, this morning around 0700 barricades were only operational near the village of Brsadin.

After almost two weeks, the Borovo combine has started to work this morning, and the majority of workers have returned to their jobs.

TANJUG Cites Dailies on Situation

LD0805114691 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1016 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Zagreb, Belgrade, May 8 (TANJUG)—The Zagreb daily Vjesnik today charged that the Yugoslav Army leadership lauches the idea that civil war has begun in Yugoslavia, thus attempting to excuse its possible interventionism.

The Federal Defence Ministry assessed the day before yesterday that a civil war has begun and ordered upgrade of combat readiness of the Yugoslav People's Army and partial mobilization of units.

In another text the daily charged part of the Army leadership that by "favouring greater-Serbian interests it does not wish to see that in fact serbia is trying, presently only to the detriment of croatia, to change the republican borders of yugoslavia."

The daily considers that the decision of the staff of the supreme command to upgrade combat readiness in order to enable the army to maintain order if the Federal and Republican organs fail to do so, is a step towards the independence of the army leadership and is "in support of the official Serbian stand" which "does not recognize the sovereignty of the Yugoslav republics."

Belgrade's POLITIKA writes that "since clashes have become dramatic and since the use of arms can no longer be avoided, the Yugoslav Army can no longer act and exist with such imprecise tasks as those it has been given by the Yugoslav State Presidency."

"The Army's patience is finally running out", the daily writes, adding that "no army in the world would permit the killing or strangling of its soldiers."

The Novi Sad daily MAGYAR SZO, issued in Hungarian, writes that now all hope lies in the Army that it will be able "to prevent a civil war and create conditions for a peaceful transformation."

However, the daily believes that the regime in Croatia, under the leadership of Dr Franjo Tudjman, and the regime in Serbia, under the leadership of Slobodan Milosevic, will do everything to "irresponsibly incite the Serbian and Croatian people against each other." The daily believes that for this reason the question of the survival of the two regimes should be posed in the first place.

Zagreb Reports Increased Army Presence in Kosovo

LD0805115491 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1100 GMT 8 May 91

[Text] Considerably increased presence and movements of Army armored personnel carriers and police, frequent overflying of Army planes in Kosovo, call-up notices being sent to Kosovo reservists—these are the main developments in Kosovo today that are upsetting the population. According to details, ethnic Albanians are being called up, but it is not known where they are being taken to and what their number is. Throughout Kosovo, Serbs and montenegrins are either holding or will be holding protest meetings because of events taking place in Croatia. At their rally in Lipljane yesterday, young Serbs voiced a demand to block Janjevo, a village with a predominant Croatian population. In spite of that, it is calm in the village today, although tension is rising.

Soviet Trade Worth $3.2 Billion Anticipated

AU0305120491 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 30 Apr-2 May 91 p 2

[A. Mijalkovic report: "Inter-State Agreements Are Only a Framework for Business"]

[Excerpt] The value of trade between Yugoslavia and the USSR should amount to $3.2 billion in 1991. The Soviet side has just started repaying a part of its debt to our country (estimated to be about $2 billion) through exports of goods and service worth $600 million.

These figures—mentioned by Aleksandar Mitrovic, vice president of the Federal Executive Council, at the end of his talks with top Soviet officials in Moscow the night before last—sound encouraging in comparison with the exceptionally modest volume of trade realized in the first quarter, which amounted to only $0.5 billion. However, in comparison with the trade results achieved by the two countries in previous years, the $3.2 billion, which was agreed on back in January 1991 by the central state entities, is more than modest, and is only half of what it was last year. [passage omitted]